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THE TIMES

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US 'buzzed' airliner, Libya says

Two fighter jets from a United States aircraft carrier buzzed a Libyan airliner in Greek air space on a regular flight from Athens to Tripoli on Sunday, Radio Tripoli reported. It described the alleged incident as international piracy and terrorism, and said Libya had complained to the United Nations Security Council.

Nato to impose fresh sanctions

Nato countries are to announce a fresh set of sanctions against Poland and the Soviet Union. Greece has dissociated itself from the measures. As the sanctions differ from country to country—despite strong American pressure for a unified package—they will be announced separately

Polish news, page 6

Thatcher rejects budget boost

Mrs Thatcher told industrialists and unions on the National Economic Development Council that next month's Budget would not contain any major reflationary measures. She stressed there would only be a "gentle take-off" in the economy Page 15



Bremner wins libel case

Billy Bremner, the former Leeds and Scotland footballer, in London after he had been awarded £100,000 libel damages in the High Court over allegations in the *Sunday People* that he offered bribes to try to influence the results of matches Page 5

Brezhnev takes U S to task

President Brezhnev yesterday accused the United States of "dragging its feet" at the nuclear missile talks in Geneva. He called for agreement on a two-thirds reduction in medium-range weapons by 1990 Page 8

MPs back EEC

The Commons rejected by 212 votes to 110 a move to introduce a Bill providing for the United Kingdom to leave the EEC by repealing the European Communities Act, 1972

Parliamentary report, page 4

Dozier escape

The US Air Force transport aircraft carrying General James Dozier home from Italy yesterday to a hero's welcome after his release from Captivity, narrowly avoided crashing on landing at Andrews Air Force base. Maryland

Sinai volunteers

The Ministry of Defence said the British contingent to the Sinai peace-keeping force would consist of 35 Army volunteers, commanded by a lieutenant-colonel, to serve as headquarters staff

Mubarak in US, page 6

Maxwell threat

Robert Maxwell, the chairman of Oxford United, is to issue a writ against his former manager, Ian Greaves, and against Wolverhampton Wanderers, who yesterday appointed Mr Greaves as their new manager

Page 20

Bristol survive

Eight players accepted an improved offer of redundancy from Bristol City and ensured the club's immediate survival. Their two-year contracts were forfeited and they expect to share £63,000 Page 20

Government action ruled out

Rail inquiry is delayed for plea to Aslef

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The inquiry into the rail dispute failed to start yesterday as final attempts were made to persuade the footplatemen's union to attend. It was not clear last night whether the inquiry will go ahead without the union's cooperation.

Leaders of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen meet this morning to consider an appeal to join the inquiry while in another part of London the British Railways Board meets to decide its response to Aslef's decision to escalate the strikes next week.

Aslef pickets at Aylesbury yesterday turned away a driver, who is a member of the rival National Union of Railwaymen and who had turned up to take a train into London. British Rail had been hoping to run a skeleton service in defiance of the Aslef strike.

But British Rail has operated a small number of freight services using some of the NUR's 1,600 drivers. About 20 to 30 trains have been running in various parts of the country when Aslef strikes have been held. Yesterday the number was said by British Rail to be down to three.

Aslef members stepped up pickets on depots to stop the freight trains running. In the past NUR members have worked in Scotland, Blyth docks, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire and other areas of the country.

The NUR instruction to its members is not to cross Aslef picket lines, but it has said nothing about taking trains out if there is no picket line.

Lord McCarthy, the inquiry chairman, had two hours of private talks with leaders of the other two rail unions and BR executives at the offices of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

He was also holding discussions with Mr Pat Lowry, chairman of Acas and Mr Len Murray the TUC general secretary and one of the three is today expected to renew the call to the Aslef executive to cooperate.

Yesterday's manoeuvring took place as the 20,000 train drivers staged their tenth 24-hour stoppage and there will also be no trains today. Unless there is a breakthrough in the behind-the-scenes talks, Aslef members will strike next Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Yesterday's preliminary session of the committee of inquiry was due to be open to the public, but Lord McCarthy decided that he wanted to speak to British Rail, the National Union of Railwaymen and the Transport Salaried Staffs' Association in private. Mr Murray went straight to the Acas offices from the morning meeting of the National Economic Development Council, which was chaired by Mrs Thatcher and also attended by Sir Peter Parker, the British Rail chairman.

Mr Murray is believed to have been absent from the NEDEC meeting for some time while he spoke on the telephone to Mr Raymond Buckton, Aslef general secretary. Mr Murray has made it clear that he thinks the union is wrong to refuse to attend the inquiry although he is also thought to be critical of the Acas decision to ask Aslef to suspend the strikes while the inquiry sits.

The Aslef decision to strike on Tuesday and Thursday will cause chaos to the railway system on Wednesday and the British Railways Board will today consider whether to suspend the footplatemen on that day because it will not be able to run a reasonable service.

☐ Senior ministers stated yesterday that Government intervention in the dispute was nowhere near being seriously considered (Julian Haviland writes).

Ministers feel themselves to be under no pressure from their own party, whose members are hostile to Aslef: or from the Opposition, which has deliberately avoided a debate.

Mr Michael Foot, after consulting Mr Murray and the other rail union leaders has asked Labour MPs to "maintain parliamentary silence" over the dispute.

There is some Labour embarrassment that the party's National Executive Committee was last week persuaded by Mr Leslie Huckfield, MP for Nuneaton, to pass without debate a resolution saying that the British Rail Board was at fault and that the footplatemen should be paid the 3 per cent.

If British Rail is forced to ask the Government to relax its short-term borrowing limits, that will be done. This is not seen as financing the strikes, but rather as supporting the British Rail Board's resistance to the strikes.

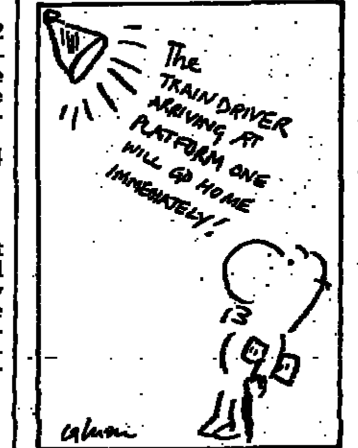
Differences among ministers are likelier to emerge when the dispute is settled.

☐ Sir Peter Parker said the dispute now had "blood pouring" from the railways. But he praised travellers for their "magnificent" response to the strikes. "I am damned grateful for the way customers have taken the strain", he said. "It is a very painful situation with the blood pouring."

Grim outlook, page 12
Leading article, page 13

Season refunds

Season ticket holders will be able to claim extensions or refunds for the days of the strike, BR said yesterday. Weekly ticket holders could claim refunds only.



Pickets turn back NUR driver

BR hopes of special service dashed

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Aylesbury

Two striking train drivers on picket duty yesterday dashed British Rail's hopes of starting even a limited passenger service during the industrial action by the main footplatemen's union.

Mr Alf Bryant, a branch secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and one of his colleagues turned back a National Union of Railwaymen member who cycled to Aylesbury station to take out the 13.40 to Marylebone.

In a scarcely-audible interlude lasting less than a minute, Mr John Wheeler, the first of four NUR drivers rostered to work Marylebone diagrams, was challenged by Aslef pickets in the road outside the station and turned his bicycle round for home, with photographers in hot pursuit.

Two other NUR drivers due to work yesterday were said by station staff to have been suddenly struck down by illness. Their non-appearance is more convincingly attributed to frantic contacts between the two unions after BR's strike-breaking plan was disclosed in the newspapers.

It was not a very happy scene outside the Buckinghamshire railway terminus. Mr Wheeler, a spare, neatly-moustachioed man in his fifties with more than 30 years service at the local depot, applied his bicycle brakes when he saw the footplate pickets. When reminded—as if he needed to be—of the official dispute with British Rail and the NUR's instruction to members not to cross Aslef picket lines, he simply said: "Those are my instructions" and turned back.

Aylesbury boasts only 26 drivers; five belong to the NUR and the rest to Aslef. Mr Bryant admitted a certain personal distress at asking a man from his own depot not to take out the four-car diesel multiple unit waiting on platform 1.

"Nobody likes asking someone else not to work," but he doesn't want to cross the picket line. He's gone, hasn't he?" he said.

British Rail had hoped to run trains into London at approximately two-hourly intervals after lunch, permitting four rush-hour evening commuter services into Buckinghamshire and a "late" train just after 9 pm.

Several dozen hopeful commuters turned up at the station from 7 am, only to be told that there was no prospect of services until the afternoon and no certainty of any trains. Some strong feelings were ventilated, with one irate, would-be traveller insisting "they should work or starve".

As Fleet Street journalists, television crews and the frankly curious gathered in the station yard a British Rail spokesman regretted that news of the proposed trains had leaked out. "The more publicity the service is given, the less likely it is to run", he lamented. "We were hoping

Continued on back page, col 3



A masked Salvadorean guerrilla searching a bus at a roadblock near Usulutan.

Haig sounds Salvador alarm

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Feb 3

The congressional battle-lines over American policy towards El Salvador have become clearer this week with the testimony on Capitol Hill of Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and Mr Thomas Enders, the assistant Secretary of State.

On one side are the Liberals, who are alarmed by the Administration's plans, announced on Monday, to send $55m in emergency military aid to the Government of President José Napoleón Duarte. They fear that the United States may be in danger of sliding into another Vietnam.

On the other side are the right-wingers, led by Senator Jesse Helms (Republican, North Carolina) and other neo-conservatives, who believe that the Administration's reaction to the spread of Cuban influence in El Salvador, Nicaragua and elsewhere in Central America has been all bark and no bite.

At yesterday's hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Helms tried unsuccessfully to get Mr Haig to comment on the reported presence of Soviet TU-95 (Bear) long-range bombers in Cuba, in addition to Havana's recent receipt of a second squadron of MiG 23 (Flogger) jet interceptors.

A Pentagon spokesman confirmed today that TU-95s regularly carried out reconnaissance missions off the American coast while on their way from the Soviet Union to Cuba, but there was no evidence of their being based on the island.

A State Department spokesman later said that these were not heavy bombers equipped for nuclear weapons,

Turmoil in El Salvador, page 6
Reagan's salvage, page 12

Confidence vote sought by Schmidt

From Patricia Clough and Peter Norman, Bonn, Feb 3

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, today staked his political future on the Bundestag acceptance of his hard-won programme to create jobs and stimulate the economy. In a dramatic move to rally support both in the country and within his flagging coalition, Herr Schmidt called for a vote of confidence from the Bundestag in his plans. The vote is expected on Friday.

It was only the second time a Chancellor has taken such a step in West German history. The first was ten years ago when the former Chancellor, Herr Willy Brandt, faced with a hung parliament, put the confidence vote to clear the way for fresh elections.

But Herr Schmidt stated clearly at a Press conference that he was not thinking of fresh elections. The purpose he said was "to make it clear that the government is based on the clear confidence" of the Social Democrat and Free Democratic parliamentary parties.

His aim was to strengthen confidence in his government and "not to open any doors" to elections. "Herr (Helmut) Kohl (the Christian Democrat opposition leader) will have to project his hopes further into the future", he said.

Herr Schmidt's move came less than a week after he threatened to resign in order to force the two parties to end weeks of wrangling over the measures, many of which are unpalatable to one or the other. It seems as though Herr Schmidt, who is personally in fine form after his pacemaker operation, feels intensely that dissent within his own SPD and between the two parties are draining his power to govern and that drastic measures are needed.

SDP faces first big test over union Bill

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Social Democrat MPs will face their first critical policy test tonight when they meet to decide their Commons line on the Government's Employment Bill.

The party's 27 MPs are divided over their attitude to the industrial relations legislation which has its second reading in the House on Monday.

Some favour the Bill as the first step towards more curbs on the unions; others want nothing to do with the Tory legislation, yet others would prefer to duck a decision by going for an abstention.

The dilemma facing the leadership is that a vote for the Bill might be taken as an endorsement of the hard line attitudes of Mrs Thatcher and Mr Norman Tebbit, her Employment Secretary, while a vote against the Bill in alliance with the official Labour Opposition, could be seen as a reversion to the party's left-of-centre roots.

As for the third alternative, abstention, one senior source commented last night: "That would be pretty feeble, wouldn't it?".

This public perception of the SDP's attitude to a major issue of policy, when put to the parliamentary test tonight, will provoke the most tormented political debate yet faced by the party's MPs.

The Liberals are unlikely to help. Their MPs met at Westminster last night, but no decision was expected before tonight's two-hour special session organized for the SDP MPs.

The Liberals' view was best expressed in the Commons when Mr Tebbit announced his outline proposals last November. The party sees little to oppose in the legislation, but as Mr David Penhaligon, Truro, told Mr Tebbit on November 23: "Union-bashing may be popular, but it will not necessarily improve industrial relations."

Nevertheless, the hard political pressure is bound to be on the Social Democrats, if only because they have faced the consistent charge from both Conservatives and Labour that they have no policies.

Mr William Rodgers told the party conference in Bradford last October that there was scope for further industrial relations legislation, and that there was a case "for protecting the rights of individuals on grounds of conscience and conviction from the loss of a job through the absence of trade union membership."

Mr Thomas Bradley, who is down to speak for the SDP in Monday's debate, has criticized the failure of the Bill to ensure the election by secret ballot of all senior trade union officials.

Mr Bradley, a former president of the Railway Transport and Salaried Staff's Association, is thought to be opposed to the Tebbit Bill.

The only other public indication of a view on the Bill was given by Dr David Owen, the party's parliamentary leader, at Leicester on January 14. He said: "Social Democrats should be very wary of going down the legislative route to industrial reform merely to placate public feeling or even party members' feeling. The latest proposals from Mr Tebbit appear to come some way between Mr Prior's caution and Mrs Thatcher's dogmatism. Like the curate's egg, the proposals are good in parts".

Dr Owen expressed general support for the closed shop proposals and scepticism about the change in union immunities

'£70,000' for 8 years imprisonment

By David Nicholson-Lord

The man who spent eight years in prison wrongly convicted of murder on discredited scientific evidence has been offered compensation by the Government, it was disclosed yesterday. The amount is believed to be at least £70,000.

Mr John Preece, aged 49, a lorry driver of Stoke-on-Trent, was freed by the High Court in Edinburgh last year from a life sentence imposed in 1973. Vital evidence at his trial was given by Dr Alan Clift, the Home Office scientist who has since been forced to retire.

The High Court was told last June that Dr Clift did not emphasize at the trial that both Mr Preece and the murdered woman, Mrs Helen Will, shared the same rare blood group.

An ex-gratia payment has now been offered by Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, to Mr Preece through his solicitors. The Scottish Office would not comment further until a reply is received. Mr Preece was not available for comment last night.

The Scottish Office would not disclose the amount of the award but it is thought to be more than £70,000, one of the highest in Scottish legal history.

Despite an examination by the Home Office of 1,500 other cases in which Dr Clift was involved, none had come to light in which there were "grounds for thinking that a miscarriage of justice occurred", Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said last night.

In a letter to Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent South, Mr Whitelaw said laboratory records going back to 1967 had been scrutinized, involving 1,500 reports from Dr Clift. In contested cases where Dr Clift gave evidence and there was a conviction, the significance of the evidence was being carefully considered but nothing had yet come to light.




Mr Preece: Life sentence in 1973.

Tebbit warns his enemies

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday warned trade unionists who have said that they are prepared to break his new employment legislation that they would be committing an offence against the people.

He was being questioned before the Commons Employment Committee about the comments made to it two weeks ago by Mr William Keys, chairman of the TUC's employment policy committee, that he would work actively against such a law and was prepared to take the possible consequences.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, had also told the committee that trade unionists were likely to be prepared to break the law if Mr Tebbit's Employment Bill reached the statute book.

Mr Tebbit said although his Bill was being referred to in trade union circles as "Tebbit's law" if enacted, it was Parliament's law and the people's law.

"If anybody seeks to flout or disobey that law an offence is being committed not against me but against the people and against Parliament," he said.

"I hope that when they have soberly weighed these matters that those who feel strongly about this legislation will still take the view that the people's law and Parliament's law should be obeyed."

If they disagreed strongly they should campaign properly and lawfully for it to be changed. Mr Tebbit also said: "I believe that that is what will happen except perhaps for a few of the wildest spirits whose interest is not so much in opposing this Bill as opposing the rule of Parliament."

Mr Tebbit said that view was encouraged by opinion polls showing strong support among trade unionists and non-trade unionists for his measures. "I do not believe there is a mood among ordinary men and women to indulge in political strikes designed to undermine Parliament."

After a 90-minute examination Mr Tebbit left Conservative members of the committee with the clear impression that he regards the Employment Bill as the last industrial relations measure of the present Parliament.

When Mr Jonathan Aitken, Conservative MP for Thanet, East, put to him the view held in some quarters that he has not gone far enough, and whether he would amend his Bill if he felt he had been too moderate and gentle, Mr Tebbit said: "I think I have hit exactly the right note. I do not have it in mind to have second thoughts."

Mr Aitken asked what the Bill did for the rights of those members of the National Union of Railwaymen who saw their livelihoods threatened by the "bloody-mindedness and crazy militancy of Aslef."

Mr Tebbit said he preferred not to comment on the British Rail dispute

Parliamentary report, page 4

The case of the wronged physician

From Peter Watson, New York, Feb 3

Addicts of Sherlock Holmes are in for a big disappointment. A rehabilitation of the reputation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is under way.

In their adulation of the world's greatest detective, who is regarded as little short of real, it has become the accepted practice of Holmes fans to belittle the rôle of his creator. Conan Doyle is often referred to as nothing more than Dr Watson's "literary agent," a man who took up a literary career not out of any burning desire to write but because he was a complete failure as a doctor.

But now two Americans, a physician and an historian, have traced all of Conan Doyle's 12 non-fictional medical writings, including his hand-written MD thesis which has never been published, and have compared his scientific conclusions with modern research.

They conclude that Conan Doyle, who was knighted for his services as a doctor during the Boer War, far from being a failure as a physician, accurately predicted a number of important medical developments, to such an extent that he should, they say, be considered on a par with Sir William Osler, the most famous doctor of Conan Doyle's era, who was later Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford.

The defence of Conan Doyle, which is being led by Dr Alvin Rodin, of Wright State University, at Dayton, Ohio, is not entirely light-hearted. He has the support of Dame Jean Conan Doyle, the author's only surviving daughter who lives in Kent. She, too, is concerned that the record about her father should be put straight.

Dr Rodin records that in 1884, in a letter to the *Lancet*, Conan Doyle described various unexpected side-effects of gout, including eye disease and psoriasis (red, scaly patches on the skin). The link between eye disease and gout was confirmed soon after this paper, but the association with psoriasis was not established until much more recently.

He was also the first to record that cases of gout, with or without these side-effects, had occurred in three generations of the same family. Once more, it was not until much later that the heritability of gout was conclusively proved.

In 1890, at an international conference in Germany, Robert Koch caused a sensation by announcing that he had discovered a cure for tuberculosis. This was followed by a large correspondence in the press, allegedly detailing examples of this wonder cure. Conan Doyle went to Berlin to see for himself but wrote a letter to *The Daily Telegraph* advocating caution in regard to the new wonder treatment. He had found, he said, that the substance (the formula for which Koch never revealed) destroyed

Continued on back page, col 5

Government agency backs TUC claim of 4m jobless

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The Government's jobs agency yesterday supported the trade union movement's claim that the true level of unemployment is about four million.

The Manpower Services Commission indicates in its draft corporate plan for the four years to 1986, that there are at least 750,000 people out of work in addition to the registered total of 3,071,000. Those include people who do not register as unemployed or are involved in special employment schemes.

Commission officials also believe that many people have left the labour force because there are too few vacancies and are no longer seeking work.

When all those factors are taken together it becomes clear that the commission's estimates of current unemployment approach four million, which the TUC has claimed for some time.

The commission's corporate plan, which has been sent for approval to Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, does not expect any big fall in the level of registered unemployment before 1986.

The TUC's annual economic review, published earlier this week, predicted that the total number of jobless would reach five million by 1984. The MSC believes that reducing unemployment will be made more difficult as between 200,000 and 400,000 more people look for work in the next four years.

The commission aims to provide more and varied skills training for unemployed people, so the country can cope with the demand for new skills when there is an upturn in the economy.

The commission estimates that in real terms its annual spending will increase from the present £1,185m to £1,931m during 1984-85. It cannot provide estimates for the final year of the corporate plan because the Government's inflation factor is not yet known, but it is certain to take commission spending over £2,000m.

Sir Richard O'Brien, the commission's chairman, said yesterday: "We are doing everything we can to get people out of unemployment and into permanent jobs, temporary work, training opportunities and special programmes for young people. We aim to do more in the next four years.

"The commission cannot solve the economic problems that have brought us to these unemployment levels, but we can help economic recovery through our training programme and by using our employment services to fill employers' vacancies as quickly as possible."

He said the Government had given its support for the first step toward replacing the Youth Opportunities Programme with a more comprehensive training and job preparation scheme. Spending on the new scheme will rise to about £1,500m in 1984/5.

The commission is also concerned about long-term unemployment and the programme to help people who have been out of work for more than 12 months is to be expanded to 30,000 places. Sir Richard said the number of long-term unemployed, now standing at 750,000, will rise to one million later this year and stay at that level for several years.

He said the biggest challenge facing the commission this year was to repeat last year's achievement of offering a Youth Opportunities Programme place to all 16-year-old school leavers by Christmas. The commission expects to offer YOP training and work experience to 630,000 youngsters between this Easter and next.

It is hoped that under the new programmes, no youngster will join the unemployment register at least until the age of 18.

There will also be facilities to help older people already in work to up-date or change their skills.

The commission draws attention to the problems of ethnic minorities, particularly in inner city areas, and it aims to give some priority to special programmes within the overall training initiative for minorities.

GLC talks on new race chiefs

By Lucy Hodges

A proposal for four new race relations advisers and three more administrative officers at a cost of £126,000 a year is to be considered by the Greater London Council next week.

A paper which will go before the ethnic minorities committee for approval on Monday recommends that three advisers are needed to work in the GLC's new ethnic minorities unit.

One would be concerned with promoting equal opportunities policies in employment and training within the council; the second would be responsible for the economic and employment prospects of blacks in London generally; and the third would work in the field of arts and recreation. All would be paid between £14,196 and £15,792.

The fourth official would be a senior race relations adviser to work as deputy to Mr Herman Ouseley, the Guyana-born principal adviser.

Guidelines, which will also be presented for approval next week, will ensure that every department in the council is aware of the racial dimension of its work.

"Officers would have to consider and report on the likely or actual impact (either favourable or negative) of a particular policy, proposal or project, and committees would be in a position to consider these implications," the paper says.

That kind of proposal has been endorsed by the Commission for Racial Equality, Lord Scarman and the Policy Studies Institute.

☐ Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, is reported to have told a group of senior trade unionists yesterday that time was not on the side of the Government in its efforts to deal with race relations.

The TUC delegation pressed Mr Whitelaw to say what he thought might happen this summer in the inner cities. The Home Secretary refused to be drawn. But he did say: "Time is not on our side."

After the meeting Mr Kenneth Gill, general secretary of the white-collar section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said it had been a disappointing though affable session. "We expressed our surprise and dismay that the sense of urgency that seemed widespread last summer had dribbled away", he said.

The Home Secretary was reported to be unenthusiastic about making racial discrimination a disciplinary offence for police officers, normally punishable by dismissal, as recommended by Lord Scarman in his report on the Brixton riots. Neither did he appear enthusiastic about independent investigation of complaints against the police.

Sinn Fein to fight Irish elections

From Richard Ford, Dublin

Provisional Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA, is to field candidates in the Irish general election for the first time in more than 20 years. It is also considering contesting any election for an asembly in Northern Ireland that might be proposed as part of Mr James Prior's initiative.

One of their candidates standing for election to the Dail, the republic's parliament, is Mr Seamus McElwain, aged 22, who is on remand in Crumlin Road jail, Belfast, facing charges of murdering full-time members of the Ulster Defence Regiment, IRA membership and possession of guns.

Another, Mr John McGirl, is the uncle of Francis McGirl, the labourer aquitted of the murder of Lord Mountbatten of Burma.

However, if any Provisional Sinn Fein candidate is elected he will not take his seat in the Dail but will follow the example of Mr Owen Carron, the MP for Fermanagh, South Tyrone, at Westminster, by doing only constituency work.

Mr Rory O'Brady, president of Provisional Sinn Fein, said the organization was going into the election to capitalize on the political developments of last year when Mr Robert Sands, the Maze hunger striker, won a seat at Fermanagh, south Tyrone, and later the success of his election agent, Mr Carron. In last year's Irish General Election another hunger striker, Mr Keiran Docherty, won a seat as did Mr Paddy Agnew, a Maze prisoner.

The Provisional Sinn Fein *manifesto says its primary aim* is British withdrawal and the establishment of a democratic socialist republic. Mr David O'Connell, vice-president of the political wing and director of the election, dismissed the issue of the Budget, which has dominated the campaign since the fall of the coalition, as irrelevant.

The constituencies chosen by the Provisional Sinn Fein are: Sligo, Leitrim, where Mr John McGirl, aged 60, was elected an MP in the Irish general election in 1957 while he was interned; Cavan Monaghan, the seat won by Mr Kieran Docherty, where Mr McElwain will stand; co Louth, now held by Mr Paddy Agnew, who is not standing again, will be contested by Mr Francis Browne, aged 36, a local councillor; Wexford, to be contested by Mr Sean Doyle, aged 45, a nurse and local councillor; and Dublin Central, where Mr Christy Burke, aged 33, will stand.

☐ The Official Unionist Party in Northern Ireland will decide tonight on its candidate for the Belfast South, by-election which is to be held after the murder in November by the Provisional IRA of Mr Robert Bradford MP. (Tim Jones writes from Belfast.)

Unofficial talks between the Official Unionists and the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party aimed at uniting the "loyalist" vote have apparently broken down and the by-election will give Westminster and Whitehall a crucial insight into the political mood of the province.

☐ Army bomb disposal experts last night defused a 600lb booby trap bomb at Camlough, South Armagh, allowing 100 *families who had been evacuated* to return to their homes.

£8m MUSIC COLLEGE PROJECT

By Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

The Royal College of Music, which celebrates its centenary this year, is to launch an appeal later this month for £8m to equip the college with new buildings and provide funds for scholarships and accommodation.

The college, in Prince Consort Road, Kensington, west London, was founded by the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII. The present Prince of Wales is president of the centenary appeal committee. The appeal begins with a service in Westminster Abbey on February 28.

The first stage of the building development programme, estimated to cost £2.75m, includes a new opera theatre, library complex, students' common room and other facilities.

STEELMEN'S OVERTIME BAN LIFTED

By Our Labour Editor

Steel union leaders yesterday called off a national overtime ban due to begin on Monday after reaching a compromise wage deal for 42,000 production workers.

The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation signed an agreement with the British Steel Corporation for 1982 that rules out a general increase across the board in favour of locally-determined productivity bonuses linked to output.

But BSC management and all the industry's unions will meet in August with a view to consolidating a proportion of the extra cash

Yesterday's deal brings the ISTC into line with other unions that had already accepted the controversial shift away from national bargaining to local incentive schemes in state steel.

LAWYER MP MUST PAY DAMAGES

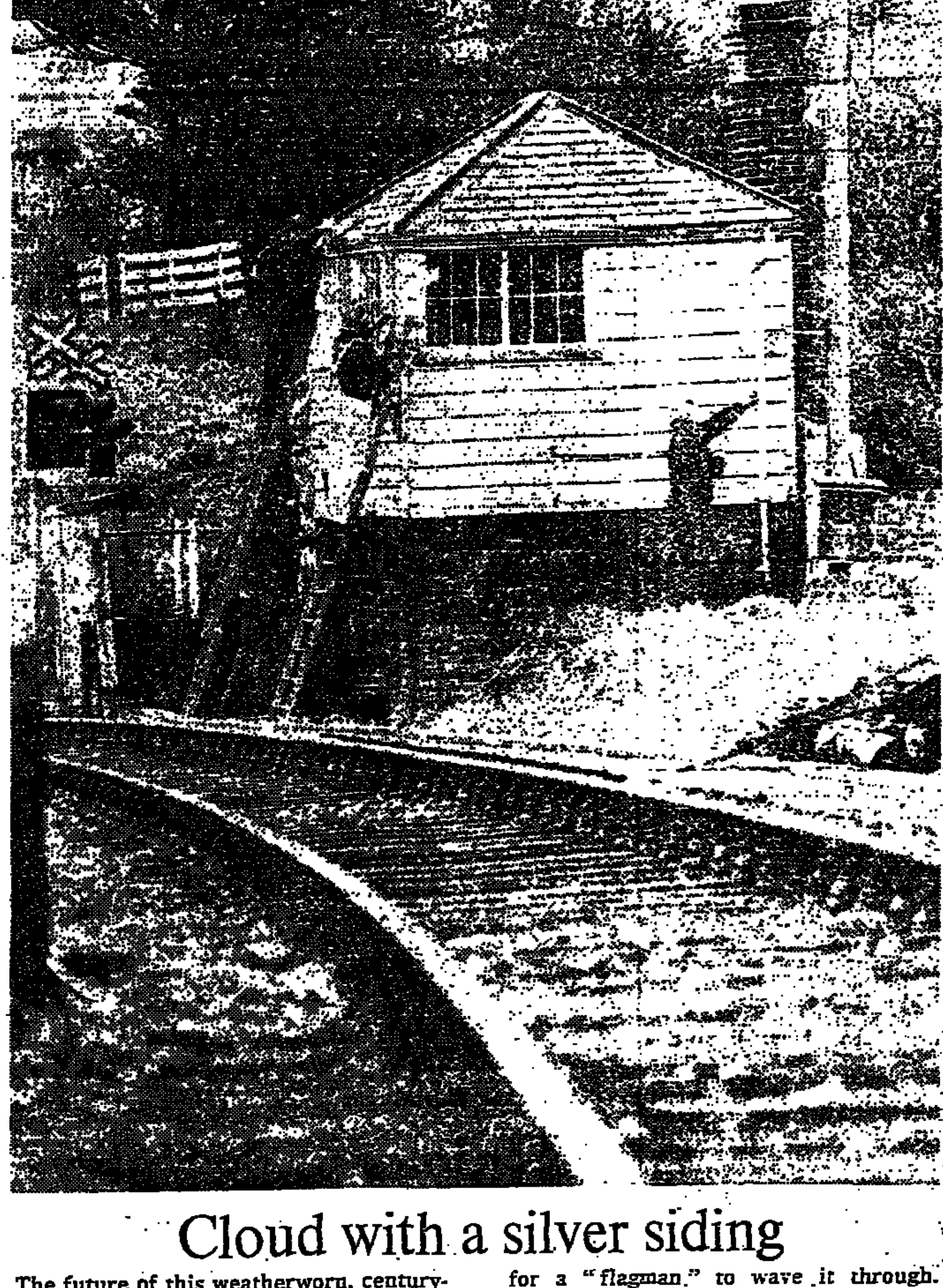
From Arthur Osman Birmingham

Mr Delwyn Williams, Conservative MP for Montgomery and a solicitor, was ordered in the High Court at Birmingham yesterday to pay £1.873 damages to a former client for negligently handling a land and building transaction.

Later Mr Williams said that Mr Colin Biffen, aged 48, the successful plaintiff who is physically handicapped, had been funded by politically motivated opponents.

Mr Biffen, of Mill Street, Ashton-on-Clun, Shropshire, said: "Absolute rubbish—I borrowed the money from my mother".

In his judgment, Mr Piers Ashworth, QC, sitting as *deputy high court judge, said* Mr Williams had been described as cavalier in his treatment of the plaintiff's affairs. "I regret to say that is the impression I have also formed," he said. Mr Williams denied negligence.



Nick Rogers

Cloud with a silver siding

The future of this weatherworn, century-old signalbox at Instow, north Devon, has been looking more assured since the national railway strikes began (Craig Seton writes). The dispute may have driven commuters to despair, but the enthusiasts behind the Instow Box Emergency Repair Fund are delighted that it has halted the only train on the track, a lone goods vehicle that passes through Instow twice a day.

The fund set up to save the signalbox, a grade two listed building, found that it could not afford to have repairs carried out while the goods train passed, because British Rail charged £52 a day for a "flagman" to wave it through. Now, three days a week, no goods train runs through Instow and workmen from a Barnstable contractor can repair the box without incurring the British Rail penalty.

Mr David Norman, secretary of the fund, said yesterday that the rail strike was an unexpected help in the attempt to save the box, built between 1872 and 1874 by London & South West Railways. "British Rail have been trying to get rid of it for a long time, either by pulling it down or moving it, but we are trying to make sure it does not disappear. Aslef has been helping us along."

Breast v bottle

Pamphlets 'break health code'

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

British baby food manufacturers, who have been criticized for their marketing practices in the Third World, are now under attack for their activities at home.

War on Want accuses them of violating a voluntary international code approved by the World Health Assembly in May, 1981, designed to encourage mothers to breast rather than bottle feed.

Bottle manufacturers are attacked for advertising direct to the public, and milk manufacturers are criticized for advertising in health clinics and hospitals, giving free samples and not restricting their promotional literature for doctors to "scientific and factual matters". All four activities violate the code.

War on Want has been campaigning since 1974 to increase the number of mothers breast feeding after the dangers of bottle feeding in the Third World, where water is frequently polluted, were highlighted by its report *The Baby Killer*.

Now it has carried out a survey of health workers and mothers in 72 British towns to see whether the code is being followed. It received 150 replies and 1,675 documented incidents of practices in direct contravention of the international code were reported.

Although the code says that there should be no posters, calendars or clinic cards advertising baby milks in health care facilities, Britain's hospitals and clinics were full of such materials, its report, published today, says.

Most of the promotion was in leaflets, pamphlets and advertisements in baby care booklets. In all, 1,174 items in 98 different places totally contravened the code.

Cow and Gate, for example, prepared "feeding your baby at home" leaflets, which were distributed to mothers as they left hospital.

One dietician said: "I am very pro-breast feeding. I always encourage that in my talks. However, it is extremely embarrassing when I know that the 'baby books' given out contain adverts for baby milks. The snag is, these books with their adverts are free; whereas we have to pay for *other literature*."

A health visitor commented that nearly all the material available at her clinic was provided by baby milk companies.

She said: "I am afraid that if the promotional material is removed, it will leave a gap that the Department of Health and Social Security will not fill."

Mr Andrew Chetley, War on Want's health officer, said yesterday: "The report shows that voluntary agreements patently do not work. Unless stronger action is taken, this kind of promotion will continue, which is unacceptable."

Mr Cherley said that a Department of Health survey in 1975-76 showed that although 51 per cent of women made an attempt at breast feeding, only 25 per cent continued after two weeks.

Mr Peter Greensmith, marketing director of Cow and Gate, said yesterday: "We are making every attempt we can to abide by the aims and principles of the WHO code wherever we operate."

He said the leaflets for mothers leaving hospital were necessary. "When a mother leaves hospital, if she is going to prepare a feed at home, she needs instructions." He said he could not comment in detail because War on Want had not yet distributed its report.

☐ The mother with adequate breasts, nipples and milk will find that breast feeding a healthy baby is not only more convenient but a pleasure to both of them (Thomas Stuttaford, Our Medical Correspondent writes).

Even in the cleanest household a bottle is more likely than the breast to harbour germs. It has long been known that babies fed on breast milk have a lower incidence of diarrhoea and vomiting due to infection. Human milk also provides protective factors against infection, giving increased immunity to many diseases.

There is well documented evidence that a better bond is established between them and this close early relationship will stand the child in good stead in its later life.

Breast or Bottle? Factors influencing the choice of infant feeding in the UK, War on Want, 467 Caledonian Road, London N7 9BE, £1.



London Transport 'needs state control'

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

London Transport should be taken away from the Greater London Council and put back under the control of central government, Sir Peter Masefield, the London Transport chairman, said last night.

The instability under which London Transport had operated during the past 10 years had been "traumatic", Sir Peter told the all-party Commons transport committee. The experiences of the past 18 months showed that a radical reexamination was overdue.

The system of executive committees at the GLC was unequal to the problems of transport, and a transfer of ownership to the Department of Transport would be "wholly beneficial".

Sir Peter said he was criticizing the system, not individuals at the GLC. So much top-level time was devoted to producing papers for the GLC that London Transport could not manage its business properly.

The "Fares Fair" policy and the actions of the GLC and the law lords had put London Transport in a position of breaking the law if it held fares and also if it raised them next month. "We do not know where we stand", Sir Peter said.

A 32 per cent fare cut had produced 10 per cent more traffic, or 12 per cent compared with a 2 per cent loss that would probably have occurred otherwise.

But in the last three months of last year the policy had cost £31m and London Transport had "very reluctantly" decided to double fares on March 21. That would bring in £156m and cause an 18 per cent loss of traffic. There would still be a deficit of £125m in 1982.

He hoped there woud be no further fare rise this year but there would be without the required subsidy. Traffic lost from public transport as a result of the higher fares would go partly to the private car, resulting in more congestion, partly to more walking, and partly to people not making journeys at all.

Higher fares would be detrimental to London, Sir Peter said. The low fares had been no higher than in other capitals. He called for a new subsidy to public transport throughout London and the South-East based on the £1 grant for every £1 earned through fares.

Opposition pledge on revising pensions

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

A Labour commitment to increase pensions twice a year in times of high inflation is expected to be delivered in the House of Commons this afternoon.

The House will be debating an Opposition motion "on the need to improve the lot of the elderly", and Labour leaders have agreed that they will need to spell out their own proposals.

It is understood that the twice-yearly uprating of pensions would apply when inflation was running in double figures, but ministers and MPs on all sides of the Commons will keep a careful watch on the qualifications and costings built into the proposal. The Opposition will stress, however, that whatever they put forward, it is bound to contrast well with the Government's own record.

The Department of Health and Social Security announced last week that it hopes to save £500m in the coming financial year from its 1980 Social Security Act provision, "keeping pensions and long term benefits in line with prices rather than with the higher of *prices or earnings*."

Other measures expected as part of the Opposition package include a proposal for a national concessionary fares scheme for pensioners, a revalued death grant, without means test, of about £200, and a Christmas bonus doubled to £20 with inbuilt inflation-proofing.

Mr Brynmor John, Labour's frontbench *spokesman* will also attempt to contrast the sensitivity of the Opposition *to the problems faced by the* elderly with the attitude taken by the Prime Minister.

☐ The state social security budget has become a Frankenstein monster absorbing more than 22 per cent of earnings and costing £50 per week in *contributions from higher paid* employees, compared with 14 per cent in 1975, Mr Dryden Gilling Smith, a pensions consultant, said yesterday (Lourna Bourke writes).

Mr Gilling Smith called for the winding up of the state earnings-related pension scheme, which he called a "swindle".

Speaking at a *Financial Times* pensions conference, Mr Gilling Smith said that the original Beveridge Report in 1942 recommended a combined employer/employee National Insurance contribution of 7s 6d per week. "Even with inflation since then and multiplying this figure by 20, the present maximum contribution should only be around £7.50 a week and not £50," he said.

☐ A plea that pensioners should be protected from having their fuel supplies disconnected throughout the year rather than only in the winter months will be made today by Age Concern (our Social Services Correspondent writes).

BL PEACE TALKS BREAK DOWN

Talks in London on the two-week strike by 13,500 workers at BL truck plants in Chorley and Leyland, Lancashire, and Bathgate, Scotland, ended in deadlock last night.

The management has said that unless the strike, over plans to cut 4,000 jobs was ended the future of the truck-making operation could be at risk.

Details of the talks will be put to mass meetings today. The two sides do not intend meeting until February 15.

Science report

Avoiding rejection of tissue transplants

By the Staff of "Nature"

Improvements in the success rate of tissue transplantation may eventually follow a new observation of the mechanism by which grafted tissue or organs are so often rejected.

It was originally thought that graft rejection results essentially from direct recognition of the transplanted tissue by T lymphocytes, the cells of the immune system which are instrumental in many immune responses. However, experiments with a rather chequered history have more recently tended to show that transplants must also carry a seed of their own destruction, since their chances of rejection are reduced merely by culturing them in the laboratory for a period before transplantation.

Dr Willys Silvers and his colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania have now shed some light on why this should be so. They worked on the assumption that the value of culturing the intended transplants is that it leads to the death of macrophages. These short-lived cells are present in any fresh tissue, since one of their roles is to patrol all tissue, scavenging dead or dying cells.

From what is known about more precise functions of macrophages, it is suspected that they play an unwitting role in presenting the tissue with which they are transplanted to the immune system of the recipient, in such a way that the tissue is recognized as foreign and rejected. Through novel skin grafting experiments between different strains of mice, Dr Silvers's work has confirmed these proposals and made clearer the mechanism *involved*.

To guard against destructive immune responses towards its own tissue, the body carries an elaborate set of molecules acting as a marker of self identity, on the surface of nearly all of its cells. These molecules are centrally involved in the process of presentation of foreign material by macrophages to T lymphocytes. Were this process to be involved in tissue rejection, then when strain B mice rejected a transplant of fresh skin from strain A, it would be partly because the transplant contained macrophages with strain A type marker molecules, allowing them to present the skin *cells as foreign material* to the T lymphocytes of the recipient.

Experiments suggest that rejection of the skin grafts is dependent on some sharing of self marker molecules between those found on the cells of the graft and those found on the macrophages. If they each carry a different set of marker molecules, then activation of the T lymphocytes against the graft is somehow blocked. Therefore, if donor macrophages could be eliminated by culturing tissue before transplantation or blocked by some other means, without damage to the tissue, transplantation between genetically different individuals could become more successful than at present.

Source: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA* (Volume 79, page 171, January, 1982).

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Redundancy conditions set for universities

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The University Grants Committee (UGC) wrote to universities yesterday guaranteeing to reimburse in full the cost of compensation to *academic staff* made redundant because of cuts in grants provided that the payments are no greater than those agreed by the Government and that redundancies are "consistent with academic planning".

What is meant by the phrase "consistent with academic planning" has been left unclear, probably deliberately. However, it is understood that the UGC might refuse to pay for staff made redundant in departments that are being closed or reduced against the UGC's wishes, as expressed in individual letters to universities last July.

Yesterday's letter states that the committee will not reimburse universities for redundancy or early retirement payments that are more generous than those approved by the Government under the national redundancy scheme for university academics. Many universities are already operating more generous schemes.

Nor will the committee reimburse universities if the posts vacated are subsequently refilled.

No comparable redundancy scheme has been established for non-academic university staff. But the UGC says it will reimburse universities in full for the costs arising from the requirement of non-academic staff under any agreed early retirement scheme in operation before August 1, 1981.

In the same letter, the grants committee reminds universities that the Committee of Vice-*Chancellors and Principals is* looking into the question of academic tenure for university teachers.

"It is clearly advisable for universities to be cautious for the time being about the contractual arrangements they enter into when making (new) appointments of academic staff", the letter says.

Proposals for a contract for all new academic appointments, which would include a clause allowing dismissal for reasons of redundancy, will be put to a meeting of vice-chancellors next week.

Dr Edward Parkes, chairman of the UGC, said in evidence to the Commons Public Accounts Committee yesterday that fewer than half of recruits to universities last year were given a firm expectation of tenure.

☐ Teachers are failing to keep a close check on pupils' work and behaviour in the last two years of compulsory schooling, allowing standards in many schools steadily to deteriorate, HM Inspectorate for Schools says in a report on Welsh comprehensives.

It is reasonable to expect that pupils should adopt more adult attitudes to school at the beginning of the fourth year (the age of 14), the report says, but too often evidence of failure by young people to conform to these expectations is ignored.

The report calls for frequent, regular monitoring of pupil progress. The early recognition of disaffection is essential, it says.

Years IV and V in Comprehensive Schools. (Welsh Office, Education Department, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NQ. Free.)

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 60; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Italy L 1800; Irish Republic 30p; Kuwait KD 0.450; Jordan LD 0.425; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L$5.50; Tunisia Din 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.



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Avoiding rejection of tissue transplan

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Protest at dance floor rule

From Our Correspondent
Sheffield

Mr Peter Wigley, Sheffield's chief publicity officer, yesterday protested against a ruling by the city's licensing magistrates that dancers in night clubs should have more room along the lines of the old-fashioned ballroom floors (Our Sheffield Correspondent writes). "We sell the city partly on its nightlife, and this ruling could have a far-reaching effect", he said.

The magistrates ruled that nightspots should provide a dance floor big enough to accommodate half the patrons at any one time, but few clubs have floors of such size.

The ruling has led to Mecca Leisure closing Tiffanys nightspot in London Road, Sheffield, where a £500,000 improvement, including a smaller dance floor, was planned.

Ex-mayor faces theft charge

Mr Richard Sotnick, aged 46, of Victoria Road North, Portsmouth, a solicitor and former lord mayor of the city, appeared before Havant magistrates yesterday jointly charged with the theft of £1,600 from John Willmott (Guernsey) Ltd.

Mr Anthony Savage, aged 49, a property consultant, of Routes Merriennes, St Martins, Guernsey, faced the same charge, and a number of others, including obtaining money by deception, jointly with Mr Michael Packer, aged 50, former company secretary, of Hill Head, Hampshire, and Mr Patrick O'Sullivan, aged 34, banker, of St Saviours, Guernsey. The case was adjourned until May 4.

New Forest oil inquiry adjourns

The first part of the public inquiry into Shell's application to drill for oil at the Denny Inclosure in the New Forest ended yesterday after three and a half weeks of evidence. The inquiry is expected to reopen in April after modifications to the south-west Hampshire structure plan have been made public.

Shell intends to drill for three months, probably in 1983 and 1984, and to restore the site. The enquiry will reopen on May 4 (not April as previously stated.)

Walkout over youth's red hair

Twenty-five garage workers walked out yesterday after Mr Barry Thurman, an apprentice mechanic, was suspended for dyeing his hair bright red to match his punk rock group's image.

Mr Thurman, aged 18, said his offer to wear a hat at T. C. Harrisons of Rotherham, South Yorkshire, had been refused. The garage general manager declined to comment.

Winning soldier

Staff Sergeant Graham Mottley, aged 33, of the Royal Army Medical Corps, who has won £574,884 from Littlewoods football pools, said yesterday that he intended to stay in the army. A Kent man who won £576,895 decided to remain anonymous.

Chaplain dies

Father Francis Gresham, aged 48, who has been coordinating arrangements for the Pope's visit to York in May, has died after collapsing while playing squash at the city's university, where he was a chaplain.

Toxteth ambush

A police patrol car was ambushed as it chased a stolen vehicle through Toxteth, Liverpool, yesterday.

Test of evidence against police outlined by DPP

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent

The Director of Public Prosecutions prosecutes in only two per cent of complaints of assault by police referred to him, Mr Peter Barnes, his deputy, told the House of Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs yesterday.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, is considering proposals for a Bill to reform the complaints system in the wake of the Scarman report into the Brixton riots.

The average number of prosecutions a year between 1975 and 1979 was 47 out of 2,664 complaints of assault annually. Only 22 of the prosecutions resulted in convictions. Mr Barnes said that the number of serious assaults annually had been put at between 150 and 300 cases.

Sir Thomas Hetherington QC, the DPP, said in evidence that the main test in all cases submitted to him was whether there was a reasonable prospect of conviction on the basis of the evidence. That test applied whether the suspect was a policeman or not.

"It should, I suggest, occasion no suprise that, despite the throughness of the investigation, this evidential test is satisfied in only a small percentage of cases. Often it is a case of 'oath against oath', but there are various other reasons why the evidence is so often insufficient."

On occasions, when he was satisfied the evidence was sufficient but the case more suitable for disciplinary action, he advised the Deputy Chief Constable to discipline the officer.

Sir Thomas is against the idea that inquiries now carried out by police into complaints, should be taken over by independent investigators. He said it would be difficult to recruit enough of them and they would be at a disadvantage, compared with senior police officers, in trying to get at the truth.

Sir Thomas also criticized proposals for the appointment of a non-police supervisor or assessor of investigations.

The change "might cause delays in the investigation", he said. There could be duplication of effort with officers in his department, who had to satisfy themselves that all proper inquiries had been made before the file was passed to them. There might also be a conflict between the assessor's duties and the DPP's statutory role.

The Association of Chief Police Officers told the committee it was reluctant to accept that further change in the system was necessary or desirable. However, if it was politically impossible to maintain the status quo, the use of a non-police supervisor could be a workable solution.

□ A total of 69 per cent of young offenders are reconvicted within two years of discharge from custody and the new Criminal Justice Bill is likely to increase the number of young people sent to penal establishments, it was suggested yesterday.

The younger the offender, the more likely he was to find himself back in custody, Miss Vivien Stern, director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said.

Marking the publication of a NACRO briefing paper, *Characteristics of Young Offenders*, she said 83 per cent of those under 17 sent to borstal and 76 per cent of that age group sent to detention centres were reconvicted within two years.

The reconviction rate showed that custodial measures were not an effective answer to teenage crime.

Judge to be reported to lawyers' ruling body

By Nicholas Timmins

Judge Lord Dunboyne, who on Monday criticized defence counsel for time wasting and praised the police for manly restraint in causing relatively minor injuries to a black youth, is to be reported to the senate of the Inns of Court, the barristers' governing body.

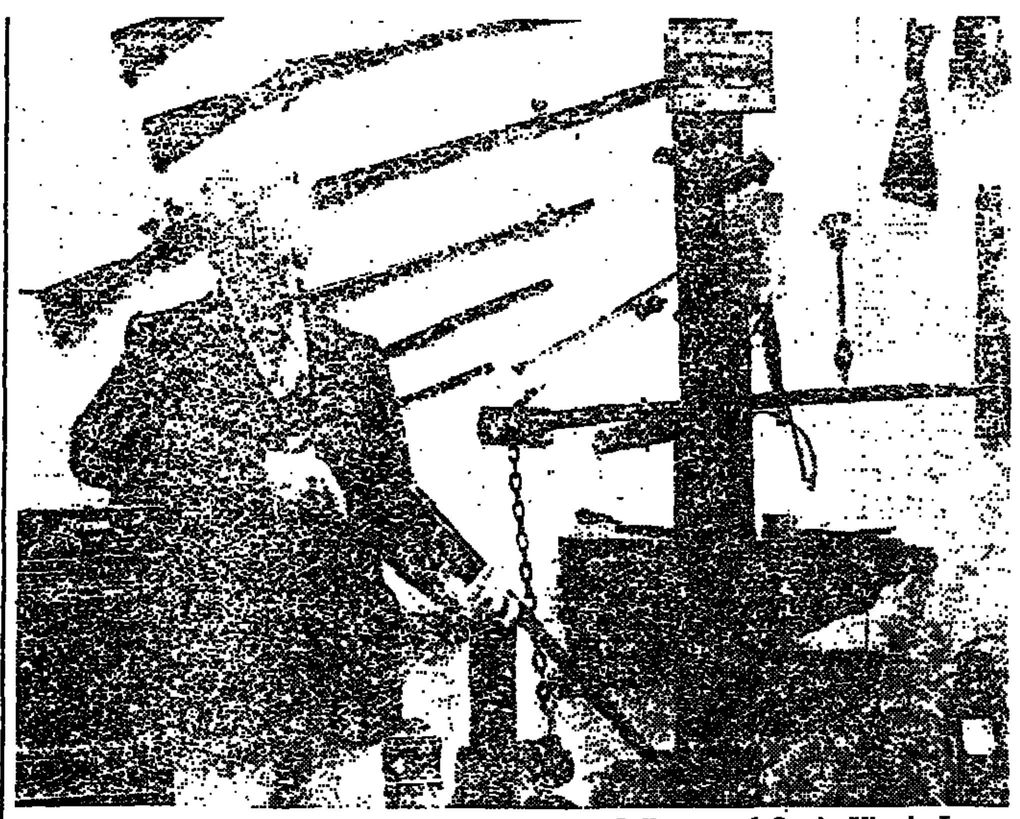
Mr Sibghat Kadri, the defence counsel, who is joint chairman of the Society of Black Lawyers, said yesterday he would ask the group to raise the matter with the senate, and would also report it himself. A motion calling for the removal of Judge Lord Dunboyne is also to be put to the annual meeting of the society tomorrow.

Mr Kadri said that the judge had made it clear to the jury that, if it was left to him, the defendant would have been convicted within minutes. In fact he was acquitted of assault on the police. "The verdict spoke for itself", Mr Kadri said.

It was obvious that the defendant had been set upon by a large number of police officers, yet the judge had praised the police for restraint. "The misfortune is that when black youngsters read that in the newspapers, particularly when they have followed the case, they will say: 'What justice? The judge still thinks we are guilty'."

In the incident, Mr Anthony Amos, aged 20, bit the finger of a Special Patrol Group officer to the bone during what he described as a life and death struggle after he had allegedly thrown a brick at the police during the Brixton riots. He pleaded self-defence and was acquitted of assault but he was convicted of possessing an offensive weapon, the brick, and sentenced to three months at a detention centre.

Judge Lord Dunboyne criticized Mr Kadri for unnecessarily prolonging the defence, gave guidance to the taxing officer that may result in Mr Kadri's fees being cut.



End of an era: Mr Victor Grange, manager of Gallyon and Son's King's Lynn branch, the Queen's gunsmiths, which closes on February 20. The firm supplies Sandringham and has held the Royal Warrant since the 1940s.

Navy 'too slow in ordering ships'

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

British Shipbuilders, the state-owned company, may have to make 45 per cent of its workforce redundant unless the Navy orders some ships quickly, MPs were told yesterday.

The number of job losses could be cut from nearly 16,000 of the 33,000 work force to about 2,700 by a plan which involves diversification of work at some shipyards and heavy reliance upon export orders.

But the building of new warships with export potential is being hampered by the slowness of the Ministry of Defence in reaching decisions, as projects pass through a "labyrinth of administrative snakes and ladders" in Whitehall.

The Navy's seal of approval, in the form of orders, would boost the export chances of the proposed new £60m Type-23 frigate, whose design is still being debated within the ministry. But BS has been told it cannot expect even a letter of intent from the Government until the spring.

British Shipbuilders' executives told the Commons Defence Committe they desperately wanted orders for the Type-23 and for the Type-2400 conventionally powered submarine. They feared that by the time the Navy had finished with the designs they would be too expensive for foreign buyers. Sometimes, they said, it takes the Navy up to six years before they ordered a ship.

Mr Robert Atkinson, chairman of BS, and three of his top executives, were giving evidence to the committee after seeing Navy orders reduced from an average of £440m to only £250m last year.

Mr Atkinson said: "Unless we get orders we will have to eliminate a national capability, with the loss of a skilled workforce we cannot replace, because we could not keep them on the pay-roll. We are told that financial constraints lie behind it. But we also have our financial constraints. I consider it is one of my tasks to protect a national asset."

Britain's record in selling larger warships like the £120m Type-22 frigate, was abysmal, he said. The market had been captured by countries like West Germany, The Netherlands, Italy and France who built cheaper warships and coordinated their export drive more effectively.

The ministry's order for the Type-2400 submarine, which would sell well to countries like Australia or Argentina, was promised in mid-1983. Two years ago the projected date had been mid-'82.

Gassing of badgers spreads to Wales

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

The gassing of badgers to control cattle disease has spread to Wales and may start this year in English counties remote from the main centres of the disease.

The Welsh Office said yesterday that 27 sets had been gassed in the principality in recent months. Government scientists have begun trapping badgers without killing them in the Midlands because of several cases of tuberculosis in cattle near Ipstones, Staffordshire.

Badgers will also be examined further south because the disease has appeared recently in two cattle herds near Haslemere, Surrey, and in one to the north of Eastbourne, East Sussex. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food reported yesterday that the number of diseased cattle in south-west England rose slightly last year inspite of the resumption of gassing there late in 1980.

The Government stopped gassing late in 1979 because of bitter opposition from naturalists who claimed that infection of cattle by badgers had not been proved. Gassing resumed when Lord Zuckerman, after an investigation, said the disease threatened the survival of badgers as well as the health of cattle.

The ministry said yesterday that the number of diseased cattle rose from 343 in 1979 to 635 in 1980, when gassing was banned for most of the year. It rose to 648 last year even though gassing had resumed. The Government gives little publicity to the gassing campaign because demonstrators have sometimes prevented its field officers from pumping gas into sets.

Lord Zuckerman concentrated in his report almost entirely on south-west England. The disease is still common near Land's End, in much of Avon and in the Cotswolds.

Lufthansa says fares could be cut

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

Air fares in Europe could be cut by 15 to 20 per cent if American practices on navigation and airports were followed, Lufthansa, Germany's state airline, claimed yesterday.

But they were unlikely to be reduced by Lord Bethell's case in the European courts, Mr Martin Landgrebe, Lufthansa's head in Britain, said.

There was no price-fixing between European airlines, Mr Landgrebe said. The competition rules of the Treaty of Rome did not apply to them. Airlines set fares in full accord with their governments who required the state airline to provide a particular route network as a national public service.

So long as individual nation states continued to make such requirements, it was unlikely that a common market would exist in European air transport, he suggested.

The American example of free competition through deregulation was not encouraging, he said. Fares which had been heavily reduced had risen again by up to 100 per cent in recent months. It was not possible for airlines to cut their charges so long as their costs were rising, Mr Landgrebe said.

But there were certain costs in which United States airlines enjoyed a great advantage. Airport and traffic control charges which in Europe were paid by airlines and their customers were met by taxpayers in the United States.

Fuel charges were higher in Europe, as was labour when social security was taken into account.

More want to shop on Sundays

By Frances Gibb

Nearly two people in three favour a change in the law to allow shops to open later and on Sundays, according to a poll conducted by Market Research and Opinion International (Mori) published yesterday and commissioned by a retail clothing firm.

The findings come a few days before the second reading of the Shops Bill, due next Tuesday in the House of Lords. It aims to abolish restrictions on shop opening hours, the latest of ten attempts in the past 20 years.

Lady Trumpington, who is sponsoring the Bill, said yesterday: "There is obviously great public support for the idea that shops should be free to decide their own opening hours, instead of being hemmed in by our present outdated, absurd legal restrictions.

"What sense is there in a law which says a mother may buy a bottle of gin on a Sunday, but not milk for her baby's bottle, a newspaper from a newsagent's but not a Bible from a bookshop?"

Lady Trumpington, speaking at the National Consumer Council in London, which with the Consumers' Association supports her Bill, said previous attempts to amend the Shops Act had failed largely because of opposition from the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers (Usdaw), and because of religious objections.

But this Bill, unlike previous attempts, commands wider support "which we hope will prove irresistible," she said.

The opinion poll was commissioned by Dickie Dirts, the London retail clothing firm which has led the campaign.



PC making good recovery

Hundreds of get-well messages have been sent to Police Constable Ian Bennett who is recovering in Bristol Royal Infirmary from injuries suffered in violence in the St Paul's area of the city last weekend.

His wife, Carol, shown at his bedside yesterday, said: "Ian is much better and I have been reading the cards to him". Many messages have come from people in St Paul's where PC Bennett was a community policeman and popular local figure. Members of the coloured community have called to see how he is.

PC Bennett received a fractured skull and eye injuries when a bottle was thrown at him during gang fights on Saturday. Hospital officials said he was making a good recovery.

ONE BLOW 'KILLED FRAIL CHILD'

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

Gillian Lawson aged two, died from a single blow when she would not go to bed, Liverpool Crown Court was told yesterday.

The child died in an ambulance hours after being struck by John Rowlands, the court was told. Mr Rowlands, aged 22, of Fellbeach Close, Birkenhead, denies manslaughter.

The court was told that the child was frail and had weighed 3lb 10oz at birth. Mrs Susan Lawson, who lives with Mr Rowlands, said her daughter would fall at the slightest push and needed physiotherapy for her legs.

Miss Heather Steel, for the prosecution, read a statement by Mr Rowlands about the night he was left in charge of Gillian and her sister Kelly, aged three.

In it he allegedly said: "I got mad with the children because they would not go to bed. I pushed Gillian and she fell over. I got mad and I hit her".

The case was adjourned until today.

West needs concerted response on Poland

FOREIGN OFFICE

The western world should continue to condemn what was happening in Poland and to press the Polish Government to honour its undertakings, Mr Humphrey Atkins, Lord Privy Seal said during Commons exchanges in which Labour MPs strongly criticized the American television programme *Let Poland Be Poland*.

He said that the western world should consider what action it was prepared to take. Britain was discussing with her allies today (in Brussels) the most appropriate measures they could take jointly.

The British Government, together with its European Community partners and Nato allies had condemned without reserve the massive violation of human and civil rights that had occurred in Poland.

We have (he said) called upon the Polish leadership to live up to its declared intention to re-establish civil liberties and the process of reform. The Government believe it is essential that there should be an active and concerted western response.

We and our allies are engaged in close consultations to coordinate specific measures to be adopted against Poland and the Soviet Union in accordance with the general position set out in the Nato declaration of January 11.

As soon as decisions are taken, I shall inform the House of the details.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexley, Bexleyheath, C): *In view of the international importance of recent events in Poland*, does the Government agree with President Reagan's statement that human rights in Poland have been put back over 30 years? Is it his view that although there has been speculation, there has been no lifting of the military clamp down in that country?

Mr Atkins: Whether human rights have been put back 30 years, I would not wish to quarrel with the President of the United States. We have made plain that human rights are being seriously violated in Poland.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab): While the House would accept and support his condemnation of the denial of *civil rights in Poland, that stance* would be much more credible if we and the United States did not apply double standards in these matters, and if the Government would attack as strongly the denial of civil right in countries like El Salvador and Turkey.

Does he think that any useful purpose was served by the Prime Minister *appearing in* that ridiculous Hollywood film show?

Mr Atkins: The Government deplores violation of human rights wherever it occurs. We have repeatedly said that with, I thought, the support of the Opposition. On the programme, the Prime Minister was asked to say her views on Poland, and she *did so*.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab): The plight of the Polish people living under martial law and an oppressive Stalinist junta was not helped in any way by the production of *Let Poland Be Poland*. In many ways it made a mockery of the tragedy in Poland.

The United States President and the Prime Minister would speak with far greater authority and credibility on the Polish issue if they did not act constantly as defenders and apologists of evil or oppressive regimes all around the world, particularly in El Salvador.

Mr Atkins: Attacks by him on the *Government for supporting evil* and oppressive regimes throughout the *world deserve* no comment from me. He knows perfectly well the position of the Government about the events in Poland. On his judgment as to whether the programme, which I did not see, was helpful or not, what matters is that the western *world should continue* to condemn what is happening in Poland, should continue to press the Polish Government to honour its undertakings and should consider what action it is prepared to take. That is exactly what is happening.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): *If we pontificate on the internal affairs of other nations, we give them the moral right to pontificate upon ours. If we seek* to interfere in the management of their own affairs, we give them a parallel justification for seeking to interfere in ours. Is that what the Government wants?

Mr Winnick: Why shouldn't they?

Mr Atkins: If Mr Powell is suggesting that the Government should remain silent about what is happening in Poland, I do not agree with him.

Mr Raymond Whitney (Wycombe, C): There should be a concerted western response to the events in Poland and the actions of the Soviet Union. The response should be in terms of specific measures. He should ensure that the agreement in the west on these specific measures should be quickly forthcoming.

Mr Atkins: I agree. It is to this end that we have had, and are continuing today, discussions with our allies about the most appropriate measures we can take jointly. I cannot tell him whether we shall arrive at conclusions today, but I undertake that we shall press ahead as quickly as we can and I will keep the House informed.

Mr Dennis Healey, Chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (Leeds, East, Lab): Is there any information on reports that there could be soon a meeting between the Polish authorities and members of the Solidarity union, including Mr Lech Walesa? If these reports prove to be true, this will be an important step towards satisfying the conditions we would all feel to be necessary before providing *new aid* to the Polish Government.

As the United States administration has agreed to the payments of contributions it was obligated to make towards certain commercial banks which had made loans to Poland, is it the Government's policy to reschedule existing Polish debt?



Atkins: Civil liberties



Healey: Rescheduling debt

Mr Atkins: No, it is not. We have agreed that the question of rescheduling Polish debts should be left in abeyance. That remains our position.

I do not know whether the reports that General Jaruzelski and Mr Lech Walesa will meet, are true or not. For my part I hope they are, for this is one of *the conditions we made for* reviewing our position towards Poland — that there should be a renewed dialogue between the Polish Government, Solidarity and the church.

Sir John Biggs-Davidson (Epping Forest, C): In helping to relieve distress in Poland, it is important that supplies should be sent through church agencies rather than through the *Polish Red* Cross, which is clearly dominated by the dictatorship.

Mr Atkins: Yes. The EEC has decided to spend the money it set aside for selling food to the Polish government at a discount to providing humanitarian aid, including food aid. The channels *through which it should be sent* are important.

We are declining to send it to the Polish Government. It is our belief that the church is the best way of ensuring that the food we send and humanitarian assistance reaches the right people.

I note what he says about the Red Cross. We are in touch with the International Red Cross and other voluntary organizations. The prime purpose is to ensure the food goes to those who really need it.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): Many people found it a certain irony that the foreign minister of Turkey should take part in the programme *Let Poland be Poland*. Could I get the Government's policy straight on this? Is it Government policy that it is against the suppression of trade unions in Poland, but in favour of the suppression of trade unions in Turkey?

Mr Atkins: I am happy to say I do not answer in this House for the government or foreign minister of Turkey. The position of the British Government is plain and has the support of the majority of MPs.

We are against the kind of repressive activities, including the suppression of trade unions, which the world has seen happening in Poland since December 13. We shall continue to maintain our opposition to it and use what efforts we can to ensure that the Polish Government returns to the course on which Poland had been embarked.

Budget dilemma for court

EUROPE

If the British Parliament refuses to authorize the addition to the European Community budget adopted by the European Parliament, the British Government will have to reduce its payments to the EEC, Mr Humphrey Atkins, Lord Privy Seal, said.

He was answering questions after a statement outlining the Government's proposed action following the difference of view which had arisen between the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament on the adoption of the 1982 Community budget.

In his statement, **Mr Atkins** said that the Council had decided to institute proceedings before the European Court of Justice about the budget, but that meanwhile member states would pay in full the sums resulting from the budget as adopted. The Council would also open discussions with the Parliament and the Commission as soon as possible to resolve the problem.

We hope that these discussions will succeed (he said). At the same time we have to protect our legal position *and ensure* that, if an answer is not found by discussion, we shall have a ruling of the court. By far the best way of doing that is through an action by the Council as a whole.

As some other member states were willing to accept the budget as adopted, and were reluctant to go to the court, the presidency proposed, as a compromise, that *the council should take the* matter to the court but that all member states should pay their contributions on the basis of the budget as adopted. We accepted this.

Because, in our view, that part of the budget added by the European Parliament after the second budget council on November 24 was not legally adopted, we cannot treat it, as we do the rest of the budget, as a direct charge on the consolidated fund on the basis of section 2 (3) of the European Communities Act 1972. We shall therefore make a separate payment of our part of this extra sum (about £2.5m per month).

The authority of Parliament will be sought for this payment in a supplementary estimate for the current financial year and in a main estimate for 1982-3, meanwhile the payment will be met by means of repayable advances from the Contingencies Fund.

Once the issue has been resolved, preferably through discussions between the community institutions, but, if not, through a judgment of the European Court, we shall know the amount which we are obliged to pay. We shall then either receive a repayment or be under a firm Community obligation to pay the full amount.

Mr Eric Heffer, Opposition spokesman on European and Community affairs (Liverpool, Walton, Lab): it could rightly be argued that the European assembly has exceeded its powers by interpreting non-compulsory expenditure on a wider basis than generally accepted by the Council. That is a matter of principle. While it is true that the extra budget agreed by this assembly beyond what the Council has agreed to would marginally benefit Britain, certainly in relation to the regional and social fund, nevertheless that is outweighed in other directions. Therefore it is right to resist the decision.

The assembly's decision should *be resisted* and we can understand why the Government is in some difficulty in certainly not wanting to go to the European Court on its own. We regret the Government was unable to persuade its fellow EEC members to withhold payment until the court decided.

In the circumstances, we should need to look closely at *this proposal on payment* and we reserve our position. Possibly we need a debate on the whole question.

Mr Atkins: I understand the position he has outlined. It will *be possible to* debate the matter when the supplementary estimate *is laid* before *the* House. Although in this case the amounts are not enormous, there is a matter of principle involved here which could have far-reaching implications unless we get *the matter settled*.

It would have been preferable if we had persuaded our partners to join us in action. A joint approach by the council is more powerful than an individual approach.

This is only of a temporary nature. If there is a decision that Parliament acted illegally, it is guaranteed that the money will be repaid. If it acted legally, it would be a community obligation, we would have had to fall in with in any case.

Mr James Spicer (West Dorset, C): *If it is a problem of a temporary nature, how long will it be before the Court gives its opinion?*

Mr Atkins: This is a matter not for the Government, but for the European Court of Justice. Past experience shows that it does not move all that quickly, but I hope the matter can be resolved by the summer.

Mr David Stoddart (Swindon, Lab): most MPs resent attempts by the European Assembly to filch powers which properly belong to the Council of Ministers whose members are responsible to their national parliaments.

Will he now make it clear that if this assembly continues to try to usurp powers of this House he will come forward with a European Assembly Repeal Bill and withdraw our delegation. Mr Atkins: No, I will not do that. What we will do, and are doing, is to ensure, so far as we can, that the European Parliament acts only within the constraints laid upon it.

Mr Guy Barnett, an Opposition spokesman on European and Community Affairs, (Greenwich, Lab): As it is clear that it is the Government's view that that part of the budget which was added by the assembly was not legally adopted, and therefore does not fall *within moneys which* can be taken from the consolidated fund under the European Communities Act, and requires the authority of this House, what action is the Government going to take if *this House* refuses to give that authority?

Mr Atkins: We shall have to reduce our payments. We shall *have to see what this House* says.

Bill to get UK out of EEC rejected

A Bill to provide for the United Kingdom to leave the Common Market was rejected by 212 votes 110 — majority against, 102. Its sponsor, *Mr Dennis Canavan* (West Stirlingshire, Lab), seeking leave to bring in his European Communities Act 1972 (repeal) Bill, said membership of the EEC had been an unmitigated disaster in terms of jobs, trade, industry, agriculture, fisheries, food, economy, and virtually any criterion *that could be named*.

The Treaty of Rome had been a charter for multi-national companies to take their investment out of Britain, ship jobs abroad and throw people on the dole queues.

It had only provided jobs for a few overpaid Euro-MPs, Euro fanatics and carpetbaggers like Mr Roy Jenkins, who took over £250,000 for his job in the EEC and was now trying to con the people of Hillhead to vote for him. The people of Scotland would see through this nonsense.

Rumours from Whitehall were that the official forecast for the next budget's net contributions was £1,400 — at £25 per head of population — and making Britain *the biggest contributor*. To leave would not be turning a back on world trade. The EEC was a narrow protectionist block.

Sir Anthony (West Flint, C), opposing the Bill, said that nobody would deny that the EEC was not working particularly well at present, but Britain had had a long decline. To say that all her *troubles were due to membership* of the EEC had as much intellectual responsibility as to say they were due to Commonwealth immigration. Both were untrue and equally squalid.

Britain trade deficit with the EEC was one-third of what it was with the United States and one-twelfth of what it was with Japan. *Her contribution to the EEC was* only one-twentieth of a penny in the pound of public expenditure last year.

If Britain broke the treaty, who would want to enter into a binding agreement with her again? The decision to join had been taken after the most thorough national debate in history. Britain had been a member for 10 years it was time to grow up, stop hankering for a past that was gone and stop dreaming impossible dreams.

While there were differences of view between Britain and her EEC partners, relations between them were good, Mr Humphrey Atkins, Lord Privy Seal, said when amid some laughter *Mr* Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C) asked Mr Atkins if he intended to take any steps to celebrate 10 years of United Kingdom membership of the EEC on January 1, 1983.

Mr Atkins said no specific steps were invisaged by the Government to celebrate the event.

Mr Marlow: During the referendum campaign, the minister of propaganda sent round an unsolicited document to every household on the puported benefits of membership. To celebrate the tenth anniversary next year, would Mr Atkins set out the facts to *everyone*, pointing out partirularly that it has cost £1m a day since we joined?

Mr Atkins: I cannot answer for the activities of the so called minister for propaganda during the campaign. That was nothing to do with this party. (Laughter), Our EEC membership last year *did not cost us £1m a day. Our* adjusted contributions after the arrangements made by the Prime Minister came to £1m a week.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newnham, North East, Lab): With the anniversary coming up we are having the worst relations with our European partners than we have ever had . Has he seen the report from the Brussels correspondent of *The Times* on Saturday?

It said that after what he called the total collapse of the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting the two peacemakers, Leo Tindemans, the Belgian foreign minister, who is *president* of the *council*, and Gaston Thorn, president of the commission, were asked to tour the EEC capitals to seek amicable agreement on reform but agreed there was no point in doing so

Mr Atkins: I reject both of his points. *All* of us are seeking to achieve what the European Council, the heads of government, agreed that we should do. Leo Tindemans and Gaston Thorn are not doing as Mr Leighton suggested. They are embarking on precisely the kind of discussions which they and we believe may lead to a solution.

Mr Eldon Griffiths Bury St Edmunds, (C): He should think again about the suggestion. It would be a good idea on the tenth anniversary to set out to the British public the immense benefits of membership and, moreover, to indicate that, if we put our own house in order, there are great treasures still to be won. (Some laughter)

Mr Atkins: We do not need to wait until 1983 to do as he suggests. Ministers seek to do it continuously. Rather than celebrating and having a party, it is more important to persuade the people of these benefits and that the right thing to do is to take advantage of them.

Mr Eric Heffer Opposition spokesman on European and Community Affairs: Is the Government going to be genuinely serious about the future budget negotiations? We have had continuous negotiations in the past and no permanent settlement has been reached.

It is assumed that the contribution will be £1,400m. On that basis can we know now that this time the Government is genuinely serious

Mr Atkins: The figure he has quoted is the unadjusted contribution. This is going to be adjusted because of the stand the Government took in 1980.

S African reply being considered

ILL-TREATMENT

The South African Government had just replied to the British Government's expression of concern over allegations of ill-treatment by Mr Steven Kitson while detained by South African security forces, and this reply was now being carefully examined by the Government, Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said.

He told Mr Stanley Clinton Davis (Hackney Central, Lab), who had asked what representations had been made by the Government to the South African Government concerning the treatment of Mr Kitson, that the British Embassy, on the instructions of Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, had drawn the attention of the South African Government to Mr Kitson's allegations of ill-treatment, expressed the concern of the British Government and asked that the allegations were *investigated*.

We received a reply (he said) from the South African Government yesterday which is now being carefully examined. Mr Clinton Davis: What was the purport of the reply received from the South African Government? Will Mr Luce take into account when assessing the *bonafides of the reply, what is* currently happening in South Africa with further intimidation, arrests of leading trade unionists, detention without trial and all the other miserable apparatus of the evil apartheid regime?

Mr Luce: The reply of South Africa is fairly detailed, since the allegations of Mr Kitson were *fairly extensive*, and therefore it will take time for us to investigate and decide how we should best deal with this.

We have repeatedly made statements, including our Permanent Representative at the United Nations, and on behalf of the Ten as well in December, that we deplore bannings and detentions and believe that people who are imprisoned for political reasons should be freed.

Intensified effects of rail dispute

RAIL DISPUTE

The Speaker, Mr George Thomas, rejected a request by **Mr Leslie Huckfield** (Nuneaton, Lab) for an emergency debate on what he said was the failure of the British Railways Board to honour its *agreement to pay all railwaymen* a 3 per cent increase from January and on the consequences for industry and the travelling public.

Mr Huckfield said that since he last made such an application Aslef had changed its intended days of taking strike action, which would have a different and possibly more intensified effect on the railway system. There was a strong feeling that the board might retaliate tomorrow

Many MPs believed that the Government was responsible in no small measure for the dispute and that this was the first example of the Government's new policy towards the trade union movement. The Secretary of State for Transport had already intervened in this dispute, but outside the House.

He should be enabled to make the same inflammatory and misguided statements inside the House so that MPs could question him and put their points

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Agriculture; Prime Minister.
Lords (3): Debate on the Scarman report on the Brixton disturbances

Protests at sex shop proposals

PORNOGRAPHY

A Government new clause and schedule to enable local authorities in England and Wales to control sex shops and sex cinemas were moved by Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, when the report stage of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill began.

The schedule contained the details of the licensing system covering conditions for licensing and the renewal and transfer of licenses, grounds upon which licences must be refused, powers to prescribe conditions, the display of licences and enforcement with fines of up to £5,000 *for breaches of the terms of* a licence.

Mr Raison said the number of sex shops had significantly increased over the past 18 months. They had, understandably, caused a great deal of concern and resentment among local communities. That was especially true when they had been opened in particularly unsuitable locations such as near a school, or in one case, next to a church.

Local authorities had found themselves powerless to intervene. That was because sex shops had been opened in premises previously used as ordinary shops, and no planning per*mission was needed*.

The idea of licensing sex shops had come from the GLC last year to deal with the problem in Soho and initially it had been decided to see how this experiment worked before considering its extetion to the rest of the country. But the Government had been impressed by the strength *of the opinion from MPs*, the local authorithy associations, individual local authorities and members of the public, who urged the need for immediate action.

The thinking behind the proposals was to provide a means to control premises whose activities were not necessarily illegal, but whose used should regulated, to ensure undesirable elements were not concerned in their operation and the charcter of the surrounding area was not adversely affected.

It was not intended to prohibit sex shops, but to *have a* reasonablemeasure of control and to achieve this it was necessary to acknowledge their *existence. The Government* realised some might feel so strongly about the issue that even this degree of acknowledgement was unacceptable, but the evidence from many sources favoured the proposals.

Granting licences would not confer any immunity from the criminal law. Premises would *continue to be subject to the* Obscene Publications Act, 1959, and the Indecent Display Control Act, 1981.

It had been argued that the proposals gave some advantage to the pornography industry, but that was not the opinion of the sex shop proprietors.

The Bill would cover also sex cinemas — premises used to show films or videos portraying or dealing with sexual activity. It was not intended to include ordinary cinemas. There was also a specific exemption for premises being used in respect of birth control.

It was possible that these provisions might be affected by a Cinematograph Bill which would have its second reading shortly, so the Government might wish to reconsider this part of the proposals at a later stage.

In making decisions on licences, local authorities would be able to take into account any objections received and refusal would follow if any of the *conditions were not met. These* included an age limit of 18 on the licence holder, if he had a conviction, or that the business would be run for the benefit of a person who would himself be refused a licence.

When the number of sex establishments would be excessive or inappropriate to the locality, a licence could also be refused. But it would not be possible for an authority to say simply no to all sex shops; there would have to be a reason for refusal. Existing premises would have no right to a licence and *would have to apply as any new* premise would. Any sex shop in operation before December 22, 1981, would have to receive preference where there was a question of too many applications.

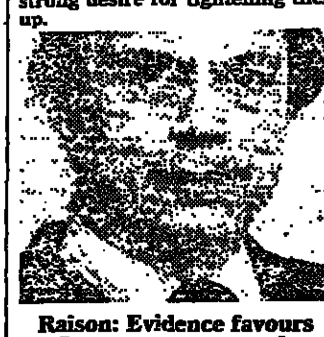
Applicants who were turned down would have a right of appeal to the magistrates; court *and then to the Crown Court*. A licence would be subject to terms and conditions as prescribed by the local authority, such as hours of business, visability of material and its display in or on the premises.

The licence would run for 12 months after which it would be subject to renewal when it would *be considered* afresh. It could be refused on any of the grounds on which it could initially have been rejected.

Local authorities and the police would have power to enter and inspect licensed premises at any reasonable time and to inspect unlicensed premises on a warrant.

Commenting on an amendment by Sir Bernard Braine (Essex, South East) and Dr Brian Mawhinney (Peterborough, C), he said it was essential that the definition of sex establishments should be as comprehensive as possible and have no obvious loopholes which could be exploited by those wishing to evade *the controls* of the licenisng arragements.

No right would be conferred on any individual to trade in any material which contravened the general criminal law. If the Bill did not include the various activities which might be lawful, they would be outside the terms of the controls which would be weakened when there was a strong desire for tightening them up.



Raison: Evidence favours Government proposals

On other amendments, the Government did not want to risk the possibility that other premises which the Bill was not designed to deal with might be held to require a licence. Examples were medical bookshops, or those dealing with marriage guidance or sexual relations in marriage.

He feared that an obligation on the licensing authority to hear in person every individual who objected to an application would place substantial burdens on the authority.

The most appropriate and effective penalty would be one which reflected the high financial rewards associated with the activities of those premises. For that reason there was an exceptional maximum penalty of £5,000 on summary conviction.

Imprisonment would be difficult to reconcile with the general need to reserve such powers for the more serious offences.

Dr Shirley Summerskill, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Halifax, Lab) said that fines would not have that effect. This was an industry making a great deal of money. Fines should be raised to something that would deter and frighten if prison was not to be considered.

Mr Raison said that the way to hit people who hoped to make a lot of money if they transgressed the law, was in the pocket. A higher fine would raise the argument that it was not appropriate for those offences to be dealt with in the magistrates courts, which was where they *should take place in the interest* of speed.

Mr Roland Moyle (Lewisham, East, Lab) said that he supported the proposals. Sex shops were beginning to *spread* to the suburbs and becoming much more visible to the ordinary population and capable of causing considerable offence.

He had an amendment to prevent sex shops selling articles to stimulate or encourage cruelty or violence.

Sir Bernard Braine (South-East Essex, C) said sex shops were springing up like poisonous fungi all over the country, but judging by the press there had been a *strong and growing reaction*. It was not merely that people's instinct made them revolt against the filth peddled from these establishments, but in the view of the communities most closely affected it degraded the neighbourhoods in which these shops operated.

The portrayal of violence and cruelty and the sale of material designed to encourage such activity should have been banned altogether. Instead there was to be written into the law that it was permissible in certain circumstances. What the Government had set out to do would not do. Astonishingly, it even made provision for an exemption from *licensing, providing an open door* to corruption.

Pornographers were laughing all the way to the bank. The punishments proposed in this Bill were derisory against the vast and increasing profits made out of this filthy trade. Here was a licence to print money on a scale that existed nowhere else in this country.

Licensing sex shops was bad in principle because it implied social and parliamentary approval of a fundamentally corrupt and corrupting enterprise. Pornography relied for its effect on the degradation of women. Therefore it was specifically designed to undermine society.

The Bill would have the likely effect of concentrating the vicous trade of sex shops in areas where local authorities would allow licences. But the Bill did not make it possible for a local authority to close porn shops in its own area forthwith and make it clear it would not tolerate them.

The Government should have second thoughts and stiffen the proposals to give local authorities the power to close down this evil trade. If the minister replying to the debate could give an assurance on this, he would not press his amendments to a division.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab) said that he was in favour of licensing in the way it was contained in the schedule, but against doing it through planning regulations. The planners had no criterion for judging the likely effects of a sex shop, whereas the local authority did.

Why should a local authority not be able to justify its refusal to license a sex shop simply because it did not want sex shops in its area? It was primarily an issue for local authority expertise, which could reflect public opinion in the area. It was not a decision for a Crown Court judge. Something should be written into the schedule to allow *local authorities not to have sex* shops in its area.

Mr Edward Taylor (Southend, East, C) said that at present there was nothing to prevent sex shops and the public felt frustrated that they could do nothing about them. Despite all the complaints from Mrs Whitehouse and others, the Government should be congratulated for having done something at last.

35 for Middle East

The British contribution towards the Middle East peace keeping force will probably be made up by a headquarters contingent of about 35 men, Mr Douglas Hurd, *Minister of State, Foreign Office*, said during questions.

Lunch vouchers

The luncheon voucher concession was not and never had been, linked to the cost of a ham sandwich, Lord Cockfield, Minister of State, Treasury, said.

He was answering the Earl of Kinnoull (C) who wanted the Government to consider, before the next Budget, adjusting the allowance of luncheon vouchers at least to equal the present cost of a single ham sandwich.

New long-term plan for coal needed

The Coal Industry Bill was given an unopposed second reading on Tuesday night.

During later stages of the debate,

Mr Trevor Skeet (Bedford, C) said he was amazed at the amount of money being spent by the Government.

Benefits secured from the North Sea went straight into the NCB deficit.

Mr Barry Henderson (East Fife, C) said it was disappointing the Government had not taken the opportunity to loosen, however slightly, the stranglehold of monopoly and restrictive trade practices which prevented this industry from achieving its potential as a key national resourse

Mr Thomas Ellis (Wrexham, SDP) welcomed the Bill an said they could now look forward to realistic pricing. For years the industry had suffered from unrealistic pricing resulting from capricious political intervention ism.

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton North, C) said the Government should consider a new clause to allow the partial privatization of part of the industry.

Labour call for new deal

HOUSE OF LORDS

Britain needed a new economic deal and a new social purpose which must be infused with something warmer and more human than the cold, crude *concept of market forces*, Lord Beswick, speaking for the Opposition, said when opening a debate on the over-reliance on market forces in society.

He said the Government's present economic policy was not giving and could not give the social results which a stable society required. In the modern industrial society with modern equipment so that everyone could communicate easily, a broadly-based policy, democratically agreed, was a prerequisite for the solution of economic problems.

At this time, in this kind of society, the Government had chosen to turn back the pages of history, to emphasize the merits of individual self-seeking and to *over-qualify the idea of private as* against public enterprise.

To secure a genuinely stable and civilized society, some broad agreement on a national incomes policy was essential. It would be difficult to evolve a policy which would be meaningful and flexible, but it would be quite unobtainable if the concept of *market forces dominated all* other activities. Now was the time for seeking a consensus on a wider policy, manifestly shaped for the common good.

High interest rates were now more of the cause than the cure of inflation. All money borrowed went to pay interest on money already borrowed, and neither *governments nor industries could* face that situation for long.

Market forces in general and interest rates in particular were distorting the shape of society. This distortion gave a society in which more houses were needed while half a million construction workers were kept idle and their families supported by Government money borrowed at 14 or 15 per cent.

We have to reverse recent trends (he said) and increase the possibility of rewards for honest productive endeavour. Lower, much lower, interest rates are essential.

To get the social and economic infrastructure needed in health, education, social services, transport and communications, public enterprise had a crucial part to play. To get the pump-priming the *private* sector needed public investment was required.

Lady Young, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House, said the fact could *not be escaped that the quality of Britain's* public services ultimately depended on the health of the economy and the wealth earned by industry.

The country had learnt by bitter experience that too heavy a burden of public expenditure damaged the profitability of the private sector and reduced its capacity to finance the kind of welfare everybody wanted to see.

Short-term injections of money could give some temporary relief but only postponed an even *harsher day of reckoning*.

Recovery did not need reflation. Real, sustainable recovery was under way. *It* was painfully slow. It had to be. There were no quick or easy solutions to Britain's industrial problems.

Tjose who offered appealingly simple solutions did the cause of consensus harm. Was there a fail-safe incomes policy which could win agreement from both sides of industry? Could central planning and control of prices and imports do more than inflict damage on industrial and commercial activity?

Lord Rochester said the Liberals and SDP would like to see much less time spent on squabbling about where the public sector should end and the private sector *should* begin and more on making the first more efficient and the second more profitable.

There was no consensus or a single untried solution among these proposals. But there was a need for a consensus of common sense based on an understanding of the facts of economic life. The country was seeing the signs of this understanding with productivity rising strongly.

We have come a long way (she said) and having come so far we must build on these achievements. It would be a mistake even to consider a return to the policies of the past when we are still struggling with the consequences of their failure.

There are grounds for hope that we are beginning to see the signs of a reversal of Britain's slow economic decline. I would not be prepared to throw this away, nor do I believe that the British people would.

The Bishop of Lincoln, the Rt Rev Simon Phipps, said the Government must do something for those who were most hurt. It could be reasonably said that the inefficient, the over-manned and those who resisted change needed to be hurt out of the damage they were doing to the economy, but millions were being hurt who had done nothing to deserve it.

Lord Harris of High Cross (Ind) said the Government was far from deserving the well-worn stricture that it was a band of extremists hell bent on turning the clock back to the heydays of nineteenth century liberalism. Market forces were only ordinary men and women as consumers and producers cooperating in competition for their mutual benefit.

He urged the Government to continue moving more decisively towards the market

Beswick: Be warmer and more human

Shrill student protesters attacked

EDUCATION

It was those who sought to deny freedom of speech, for instance, to visitors who brought the student body into disrepute, Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said in response to a question in the House of Lords about the decision of the National Union of Students to call for a week of disruption in the universities, polytechnics and colleges.

He added: Those students merely demonstrate in a small shrill way an affinity with Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin — an instinctive fear of the truth (Conservative cheers)

Earlier Lord Elton had told questioners that it was to be hoped that students would not disrupt institutions and courses, but should any instances occur the responsibility must remain that of the institutions concerned.

Lady David, for the Opposition, said the students had something to be worried about. Their grant was going to be increased by 4 per cent, well below the inflation rate, and the parental contribution was frozen *at its present* level. They had something to take action about (Labour cheers).

Lord Glenamara (Lab) said that under the Government's constraints many students were suffering hardship. Many students were not getting enough to eat and were not buying the books they were supposed to buy. This affected the middle income groups mainly.

In this PR age (he said) a week of protest is about the only way they can make their grievances felt (Conservative protests and Labour cheers).

Lord Elton: The Government's economic restraints cannot be applied less stringently to those who are not in work but are learning at public expense than to those who are in work.

هكذا من الأصل

Billy Bremner is awarded £100,000 in libel damages

Billy Bremner, the former Leeds and Scotland footballer, was awarded £100,000 damages by a High Court jury in London yesterday over newspaper allegations that he had offered bribes to "fix" matches.

The jury of seven men and five women decided after a two-hour retirement that the *Sunday People* was not justified in making the accusations.

The publishers, Odhams Newspapers, and Danny Hegan, the former Wolves player, were ordered to pay the damages and also costs of the seven-day hearing, estimated to more than £60,000.

The libel award is one of the highest awarded in the High Court.

Mr Hegan told a reporter and repeated in evidence that Mr Bremner offered him a "grand" to give away a oenalty in a championship-deciding Leeds v Wolves game in 1972.

Mr Bremner, aged 39, of Maltby, near Rotherham, who now manages Doncaster Rovers, in the Third Division, said he was delighted with the verdict, adding: "It's been the longest six days of my life."

A lawyer for Odhams said they were considering an appeal over the amount of the damages.

Mr Bremner denied in evidence that he had ever offered a bribe to a footballer or attempted to fix a match.

Mr Patrick Milmo, his counsel, had asked for large damages to compensate Mr Bremner for injury to his reputation and distress caused to him and his family.

Mr Bremner had told the jury that he gave up his playing career because of jibes from the terraces at away matches that he fixed games.

He said his childrem had also been taunted at school that their father was "a fixer", and similar accusations were made to his wife when she was shopping.

Evidence in support of Mr Bremner's case was given by his former team-mates, Johnny Giles, now player-manager of Shamrock Rovers, Jackie Charlton, manager of Sheffield Wednesday, Allan Clarke, manager of Leeds, and Derek Dougan, the Scottish International.

Mr Dougan, charman of the Professional Footballers' Association, was a former team-mate at Wolves of Mr Hegan, who made the allegations against Mr Bremner in the *Sunday People* in 1977.

Mr Dougan, who scored the goal which prevented Leeds from winning the vital game against Wolves in May, 1972, and clinching the Cup and League Championship "double", said he never heard any members of the Leeds team or anyone connected with them offer bribes to Wolves players.

Johnnie Giles said the bribes allegations were "Ludicrous".

Allan Clarke said he was "absolutely disgusted" by the article. The allegations were "total nonsense", Jack Charlton said

For the defence, evidence was given by Danny Hegan, Frank Munro, his former Wolves team-mate, Bill McAdams, and Gary Sprake, former Leeds players, and by two journalists.

Mr Hegan, now unemployed and living at Coatbridge in Scotland, told the jury that during the Wolves v Leeds game Bremner had said to him: "Give us a penalty, wee man, and I will give you a grand."

Frank Munro, Wolves skipper in the match, said Mr Bremner offered him £5,000 to give away a penalty.

Mr Munro, now living in Australia, agreed that the *Sunday People* had paid £4,000 in air fares to bring him and his family back to Britain on a visit.

Mr McAdams, aged 48, now a lorry driver living in Mitcham, Surrey, told the jury that Don Revie, then Leeds manager, told the Leeds team before a match against Southampton, in 1962, that he had "fixed" one of the Southampton players to get a result.

The "fix" involved Billy Bremner, Mr McAdams said.

Gary Sprake, aged 38, the former Leeds goalkeeper, now retired from football and living in Solihull, also said that Mr Bremner was sent by Mr Revie to "fix" a Nottingham Forest player in May, 1971.

Mr Justice Bristow told the jury that the *Sunday People* was, in effect, accusing Billy Bremner of three offences of corruption for each of which he could, at a criminal trial, be liable to two years' imprisonment.

"You will no doubt think long and hard before you find Billy Bremner guilty of corruption," the judge advised.

Billy Bremner was for a time Britain's highest paid mid-fielder. His earnings at Leeds in 1974 were reported to total nearly £100,000.

Inquest on Moonie follower is halted

A coroner yesterday stopped an inquest into the death of man involved with the Moonies and told the police he was not satisfied with their investigation.

Mr Leslie Tos, aged 29, a gardener, of Kimberley Road, Stockwell, south London, drowned in the Thames last month. He was described by Mrs June Attard, his sister, as a frightened man.

"He would sleep in a chair in the front room with the curtains open because someone might be coming for him. He was very nervous and he would sometimes go to the front door with a pitchfork in his hand," she said.

Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster coroner, was told that Mr Tos was seen floating under Battersea Bridge clinging to his rucksack and shouting for help, but when constable Charles Lowther arrived at Albert Bridge he could see only the rucksack.

Professor Keith Simpson, the pathologist, said there were no marks on the body to suggest that Mr Tos had been thrown into the water and he was sure Mr Tos was alive when he entered the river.

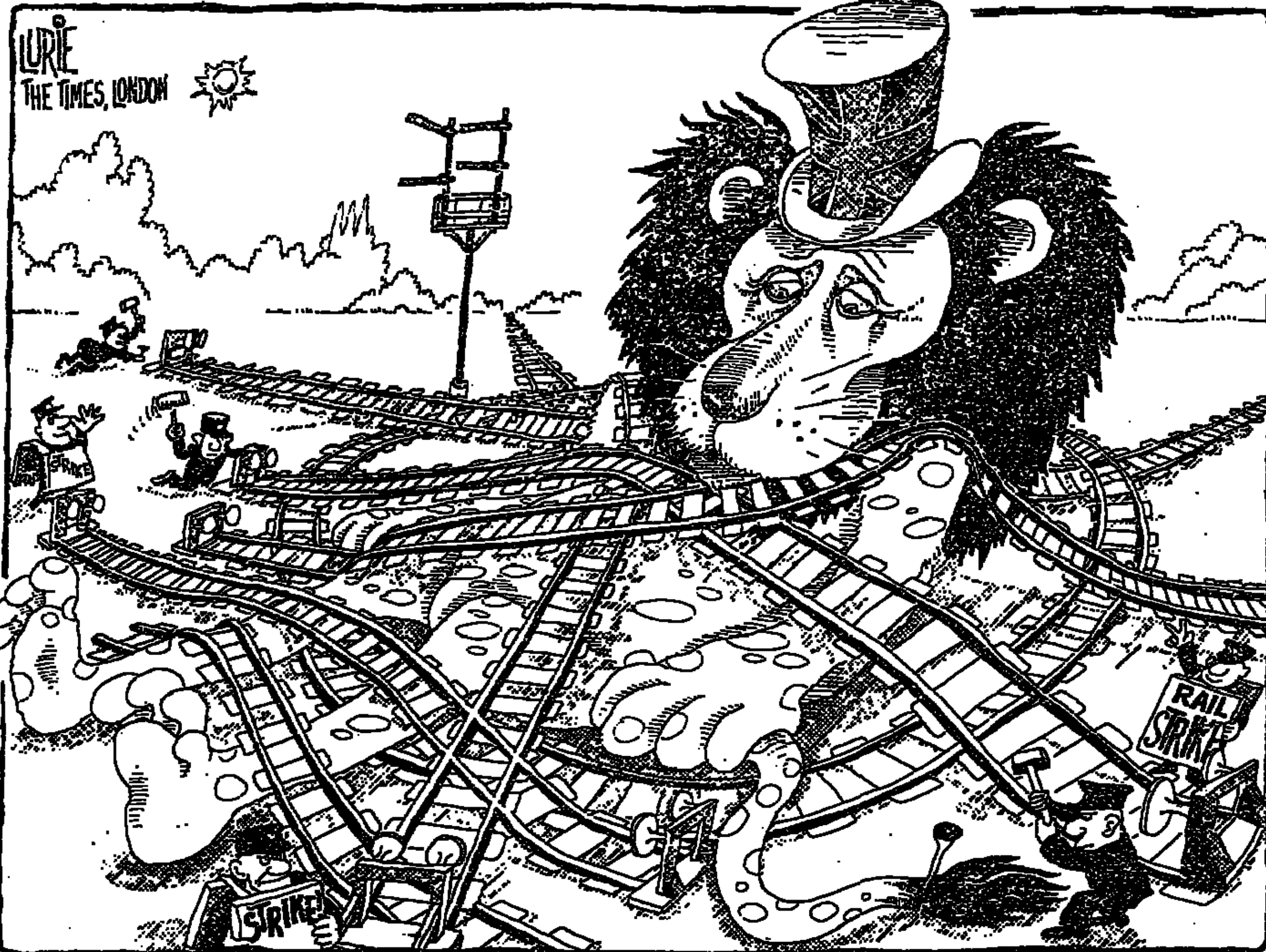
Dr Knapman stopped the hearing, saying: "This man was shouting and making a noise while he was in the water. This is not the sort of behaviour one would expect from a man who wanted to kill himself. This case has not been sufficiently investigated by the CID so I am stopping it here and now.

"I don't think it would be right to record an open verdict in view of his sister's evidence. I would like the CID to interview the relevant parties in this case; so far they have done nothing."

The hearing resumes on March 17.

Delayed start for TV studio

Central Independent Television's new Nottingham studio will begin broadcasting on Monday, February 15, following the settlement of a dispute over pay and manning. An hour-long magazine programme of East Midlands news, Central News at 6, will start the service from the Giltbrook studio. The presenters will be Anne Diamond and Nick Owen and there will be special items from around the region.



BBC unhappy about complaint ruling

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC expressed dissatisfaction yesterday with the way the Broadcasting Complaints Commission took evidence in a case concerning the *Checkpoint* consumer affairs programme on Radio 4.

After an adjudication against the programme, which the BBC accepts, Mr David Barlow, secretary of the corporation, is to seek an early meeting with the commission. Procedures for taking evidence deserve further study, the BBC says.

Mr John Edwards, producer of *Checkpoint*, said he was totally mystified by the commission's rules of procedure. "They do not seem to exist", he said. "And we do not understand the basis on which they accept or reject evidence. We were not given an uninterrupted opportunity to present our case."

The programme's lawyers are understood to have expressed the view that in a court of law the programme would have won "hands down".

The complaint is the first to be upheld against *Checkpoint* and the programme staff are said to feel they were unlucky.

The complaint was made by Mr Peter Holt, director of the Emperor Theatre at Chiswick, west London. *Checkpoint* broadcast an item last August about the activities of a Miss Jan Kerby (formerly Dutton), against whose defunct theatrical agency they had received allegations of financial mismanagement.

Mr Holt's complaint fell into two parts and the commission upheld both. It said the *Checkpoint* team was justified in investigating the matters complained of but did not consider they were investigated in sufficient depth to justify associating the theatre with the allegations of financial mismanagement made against Miss Kerby in respect of her defunct agency.

Nor was the programme's implication justified that actor and actresses were in danger of being treated unfairly.

Mr Harry Marks, secretary of the commission, did not wish to comment on the BBC's statement.

Landlord ordered to jail for contempt

Mr Roy Cutler, aged 68, a west London landlord and brother of Sir Horace Cutler, the former GLC leader, was ordered by a High Court judge yesterday to be jailed for six weeks for contempt of court.

Mr Cutler had failed to obey court orders to provide the names of tenants living in a sub-standard block of flats which the local authority wants to demolish.

About 15 tenants are still living in Brook House, West Drayton, described in the High Court as "unfit for human habitation" by Mr Richard Walker, counsel for Hillingdon Borough Council.

Mr Cutler, of Alexandra Avenue, South Harrow, was not in court yesterday when the six-week prison committal order was made.

Mr Justice Hodgson was told that Mr Cutler had so far provided only seven names, claiming he did not know the rest. The council required all the names to bring county court proceedings aimed at having the building demolished.

Mr Cutler sent a note to the court claiming he had to go into hospital yesterday for an emergency knee operation. But Mr Walker said the hospital had no record of any appointment, adding: "What is plainly happening, and it has been going on for ten years, is that he wants to hold out as long as possible and not comply with the demolition order."

Mr Cutler was ordered by the court last November to provide the names of tenants. Last Thursday he was given until yesterday to comply fully with the order.

"It seems clear he is not going to comply until he is in prison. But he has been in prison before, and I do not know how much good it will do" the judge said.

World Cup case

The Football Association and the Football League yesterday began a High Court action to stop the alleged unlicensed use of their 1982 World Cup emblem Bulldog Bobby on tee shirts sold in the North of England. The case was adjourned until Friday.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Vandals end use of rescue kit

A big wooden box containing mountain rescue equipment in case of emergencies in the Lake District has been so vandalized that it has been brought down. The Mountain Rescue Commitee of England and Wales is being recommended not to replace it.

The box, at the eastern end or Striding Edge, Helvellyn was donated by Barrow Mountaineering club eight years ago as a memorial to a member. It contained a stretcher, casualty bag, first-aid equipment and splints, supplied by the mountain rescue committee. Mr Joe Boothroyd, leader of the Patterdale mountain rescue team, said the stretcher was vandalized three years ago and had to be replaced. The box was also badly damaged and had to be rebuilt.

"Since then it has been vandalized beyond recognition. We are recommending that neither be replaced," Mr Boothroyd said.

Navy to sell its only hydrofoil

The Royal Navy is to sell its only hydrofoil, the 117-ton HMS Speedy, bought from the United States in 1980 and converted at a cost of £7.5m.

The craft was under trial as a high speed fisheries and oil rig protection vessel, but North Sea conditions have been found to be too severe for it, Whitehall officials said yesterday. Her range, endurance and maintenance has disappointed the Navy.

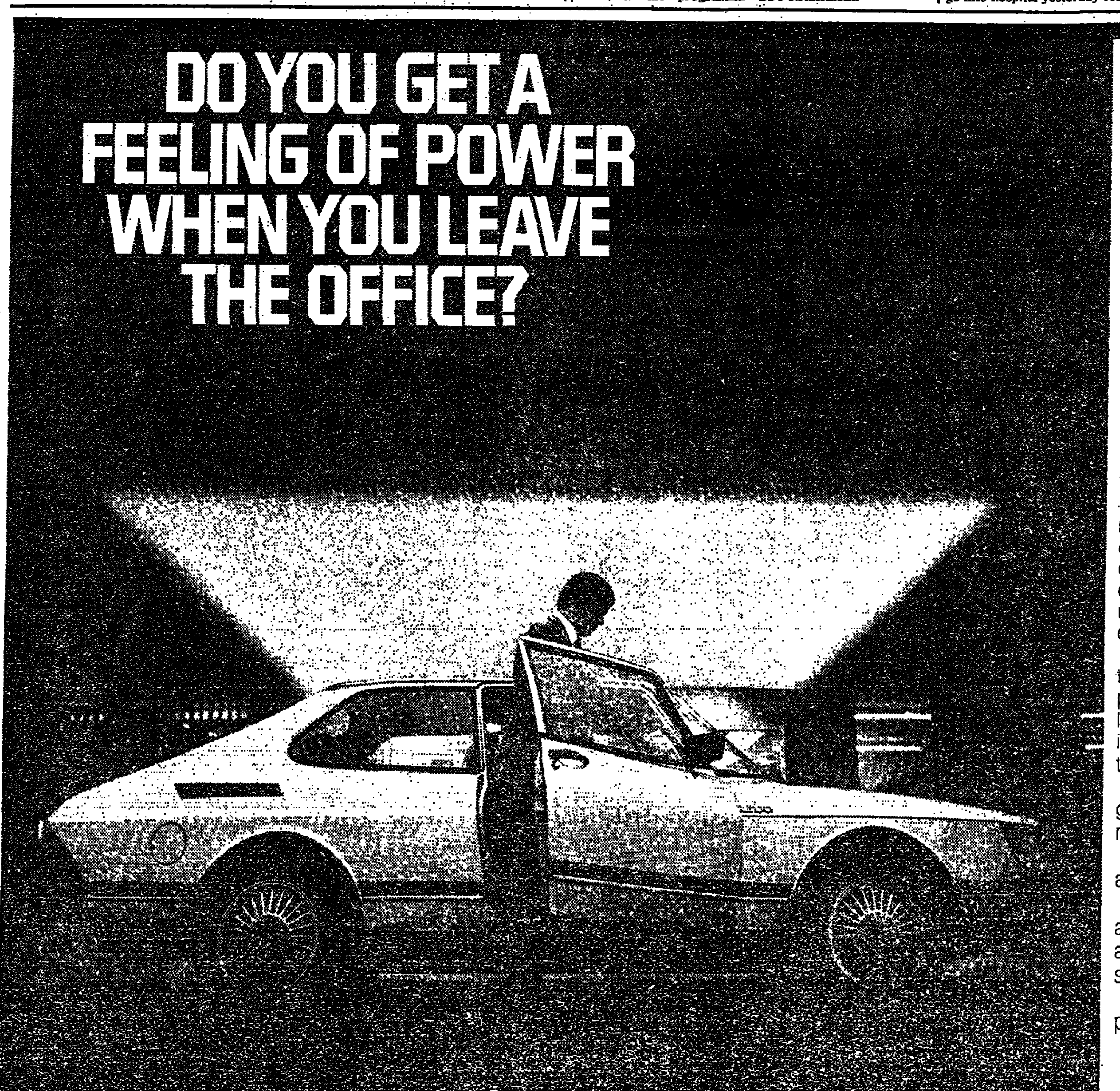
Police talk man out of suicide

Three policemen spent 80 minutes on a 150 foot crane in a Plymouth car park yesterday coaxing down a man who was threatening to jump.

Constable Keith Steward, constable Chris May and constable Geoffrey Symes persuaded the man, aged 31, to climb down after a woman he was asking to see arrived at the car park. The man was taken into police care.

Murder trial

Daniel Rosenthal, aged 27, of Nordik Gardens, Hedge End, Southampton, was committed at Eastleigh Magistrates' Court yesterday for trial at Winchester Crown Court, charged with the murder of his mother, aged 60.



NEWS IN SUMMARY

Nato denies US troop withdrawals

Nato has firmly denied a report in Die Welt the West German newspaper, that the American Andmiristration may be considering big withdrawals of American troops from West Germany (Our Foreign Staff writes).

Senior Nato officials in Brussels said that the Pentagon may be considering whether some American forces could be used elsewhere in emergencies. If so, the officials maintain, their removal would be only temporary, along the lines of British Rhine army battalions being used in Northern Ireland.

The report in *Die Welt* quoting Nato sources, says the aim of the study was to protect American interests worldwide by strengthened air and naval forces with a highly mobile deployment force ready to strike anywhere at short notice.

It is possible that the story was leaked because there are isolationist tendencies in the United States that advocate the removal of troops from Europe. The West German Government would be highly alarmed at any such suggestion and may, therefore, welcome a firm denial from Washington to set the record straight.

Israeli soldier goes berserk

Tel Aviv. — An army recruit went berserk in training camp in southern Iarael and shot 10 soldiers before turning his weapon on himself. One of his victims died. His condition is grave.

Army sources said the soldier was a conscript who had just completed a seven-day prison sentence for a breach of discipline.

Debray to examine plight of refugees

Islamabad. — M Regis Debray, the French presidential adviser for foreign relations, will travel to Pakistan next Monday for a three-day fact-finding mission on the situation of Afghan refugees there, reliable sources here said. M Debray spent three years in jail in Bolivia after supporting the guerrillas led by Ché Guevara.

172 Kurds go on trial in Turkey

Ankarra.—A total of 172 left-wing Kurdish Labour Party members went on trial at Erzurum, eastern Turkey, accused of trying to establish an independent Kurdish state.

The prosecution is demanding the death penalty for 34 of the defendants and sentences of between six months and 20 years for the rest.

Commander shot

San Sebastian. — Unidentified gunmen shot and wounded a naval commander in the Basque town of Zarauz as he drove by in a Jeep.

Tin magnate dies

New York.—Señor Antenor Patino, the Bolivian tin magnate, has died in New York aged 85.

South Africans to streamline anti-terror laws

From Michael Hornsby Cape Town, Feb 3

Three draft Bills revising and streamlining, but not relaxing, South Africa's draconian security laws, together with a proposal for a new Ministry of Law and Order to administer them, were laid before Parliament here today.

The Bills are the outcome of 18 months' work by a six-man commission of inquiry into security legislation under the chairmanship of Mr Justice Rabie, a senior Transvaal judge. The inquiry was requested by the Government.

Announcing the commission's proposals, Mr Kobie Coetsee, the Minister of Justice, said the Government was treating them as a very high priority and would make known its attitude to them later this session. They are to be debated in conjunction with the Steyn Commission report on the press.

The commission's main finding is that the toughness of the existing security laws is amply justified by the terrorism and sabotage committed in the republic during the past few years, and the likelihood that these activites would continue to increase in the foreseeable future.

Those responsible for these activities, the commission contends, are trying to overthrow the existing order by violence, are aided by communist countries and operate from territories bordering the republic — evidently a reference to the banned African National Congress.

The commission does, however, allow that the wideness and stringency of the security laws have had some inequitable effects, and that use of provisions for the detention of people without trial and the banning of unlawful organizations and publications need to be more strictly monitored.

Among the changes recommended are that those detained should be visited in private not less than once a fortnight by a magistrate and a district surgeon, and may not be held for more than 30 days without ministerial approval after a written application from the Commissioner of Police.

The draft legislation also provides for the appointment of Inspectors of Detainees who would visit prisoners and submit written reports to the minister and also furnish the Attorney General with any evidence of maltreatment.

If a prisoner had not been released after six months, the police would be required to adduce reasons before a board of review, which would also be empowered to take written and oral evidence from the prisoner. A report would then be submitted to the minister.

These proposals are evidently designed to quiet ome of the domestic and foreign criticism of the treatment of those detained, who are frequently held incommunicado and without access to lawyers or relations. Prisoners have also died from supposed accidents ranging from falling out of windows to slipping on bars of soap.

The new draft Bills would regroup all the exisiting security laws, of which there are more than 30, into three pieces of legislation: an Internal Security Act (dealing with four redefined offences of terrorism, subversion, sabotage and communism); a Protection of Certain Information Bill (replacing the existing Official Secrets Act); and a Bill to combat a new offence of intimidation.

Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Police, told Parliament today there would be a very important sabotage trial later this year. Care was being taken, he added, to see that they did not injure themselves or commit suicide in the meantime.

According to Mr Le Grange, there are 133 people detained under the security laws excluding people held under provisions allowing for detention for interrogation for up to 14 days.

Carrington flies into Asean disarray

From David Watts Bangkok, Feb 3

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, flew into Thailand tonight against a background of disarray in the Cambodia policy of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean).

Members were publicly at odds over what to do next in the political and military struggle to coerce the Vietnamese into leaving Cambodia after a remark yesterday by Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamed, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, which appeared to undermine Asean strategy.

Fundemental to this has been maintenance of the Khmer Rouge seat at the United Nations. Asean leaders have always maintained that it was essential to keep the seat in the hands of the Khmer Rouge to prevent it going by default.

But yesterday Dr Mahathir hinted to Asean parliamentarians in Kuala Lumpur that Malaysia might reconsider its support of the Khmer Rouge because of its refusal to join the loose coalition of Cambodian opposition groups proposed by Singapore last year. On the face of it such a move would play into the hands of the Vietnamese by weakening a key element of Asean strategy.

The day after Dr Mahathir's remarks General Carlos Romulo, the Foreign Minister of the Philippines, expressed himself "speechless", and Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, the Thai Foreign Minister, called on the Chinese to organize talks between the potential Khmer coalition partners in Peking.



President and Mrs Reagan greeting President and Mrs Mubarak at the White House yesterday.

Mubarak pledges peace to Reagan

Washington, Feb 3. — President Reagan welcomed President Mubarak of Egypt to the White House today with pledges to continue Middle East peace efforts and oppose Soviet moves in the area. It was the Egyptian leader's first meeting with Mr Reagan since he came to power last October.

Mr Reagan said the two leaders shared a mutual concern at the expansio of a totalitarian power which oppressed the peoples of Poland and Afghanistan.

"Within the Middle East this same power encourages hatred and confict, hoping to take advantage of instability", Mr Reagan said. "The United States stands firmly with Egypt and other Middle East nations concerned with Middle East security".

By contrast, Mr Mubarak said the key to peace in the Middle East lay in settling the question of autonomy for Palestinians living in Israeli-occupied territories.

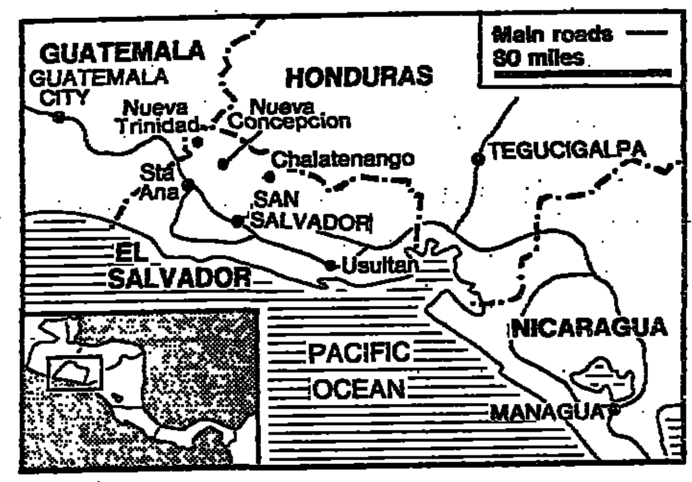
The two leaders stood side-by-side while the Marine band played the national anthem of both countries. Heavy rain forced the ceremony indoors, where Mr Reagan greeted Mr Mubarak warmly. The President said: "Your visit reaffirms our friendship and all Americans thank you for that reaffirmation".

Security around the White House was tight with large numbers of both Egyptian and American security personnel on duty.

Turmoil in El Salvador

Army joins in the propaganda war

From Our Correspondent, San Salvador, Feb 3



Stung by accusations of wholesale slaughter of civilians by its troops, the El Salvador military command has launched a propaganda campaign attributing similar atrocities to its guerrilla opponents.

Leading newspapers in San Salvador today carried lurid accounts of a massacre allegedly committed by guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front at the small town of Nueva Trinidad, some 55 miles north-west of San Salvador, in the conflict-torn province of Chalatenango.

The reports, which variously gave the total civilian death toll as 150 or 400, were attributed to military sources, who were said to have hinted that the guerrillas included "white who spoke with foreign accents".

However, the absence of significant numbers of bodies of the scene at Nueva Trinidad has cast doubt on the version of events provided by the Salvadorean high command.

A number of local photographers and cameramen were flown to the scene of the alleged guerrilla massacre. One of them, Señor Carlos Santamará, a freelance cameraman employed by ABC TV of the United States, said that 16 bodies were on display.

However, 10 of these were members of the local civilian militia, five were civilians and one allegedly a guerrilla.

Señor Sántamaria said that the local commander showed him a grave which allegedly contained 350 corpses. But he said that, judging from its size, it could not have contained more than 10 bodies.

The efforts by the Salvadorean armed forces to tarnish their opponents' image came after the killing of 19 civilians in the course of an army operation on the outskirts of San Salvador early last Sunday. There have also been allegations that more than 700 villagers were slaughtered during an operation last December in northern Morazán province, near the frontier with Honduras.

Reports of continuing excesses by Salvadorean forces against the civilian population have provoked angry attacks in the United States Congress against the policies of President Reagan's Administration, which is seeking a huge increase in military and economic aid to El Salvador this year.

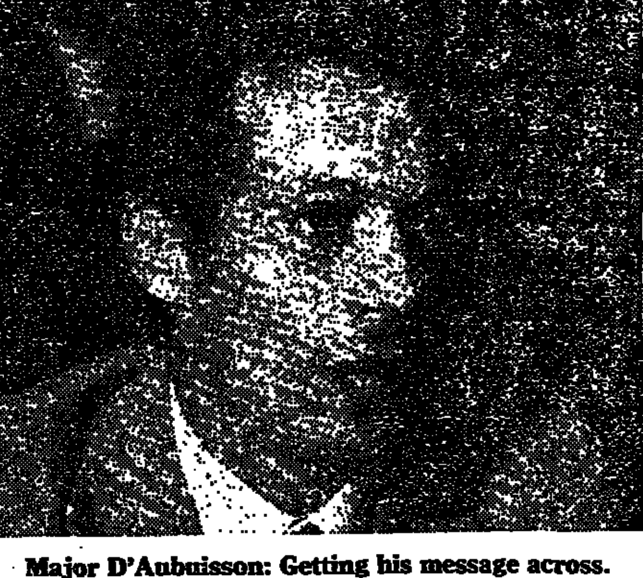
The latest spate of guerrilla attacks appeared to have died down in the past 24 hours, after the withdrawal of an insurgent force which had fought its way into the provincial capital of Usulután, 60 miles south-east of San Salvador.

The guerrilla broadcasting station, Radio Venceremos, has, however, warned the civilian population to be prepared for increasing military activity.

Reagan's salvage, page 12

Right-wing crusader stamps the country

From Paul Ellman Nueva Concepción, El Salvador, Feb 3



Major D'Aubuisson: Getting his message across.

It is fiesta time in Nueva Concepción, but the political leader the United States would least like to see do well in El Salvador's elections next month has little cheer to offer his audience of straw-hatted farmers.

"*The choice before us is to* bow our heads like slaves, to fight, or to leave our homeland", thunders Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, the *Máximo Lider* of El Salvador's extreme right.

The major has come to this farming centre, 40 miles north-west of San Salvador, to seek recruits for the crusade which United States officials fear could see his party, the Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena), capture a significant share of the seats in the voting on March 28 for a Constitutional Assembly.

A strutting 39-year-old, the major's words cut across the tinkle of merriment coming from a fair set up in the main square of Nueva Concepción, a town of unpaved roads where pigs and ox-carts splash through foul-smelling puddles.

Despite the increasingly effective campaign by left-wing guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Movement, the major's harshest words are reserved for Christian Democratic politicians who share office with the military in the ruling junta headed by President José Napoleón Duarte.

"Christian Democracy is the same as communism", Major D'Aubuisson declares. He notes that the Christian Democratic colour is green and draws chuckles when he quips: "They're like watermelons — green on the outside but red in the middle."

Although Arena was formed only last October, it is considered one of the three parties, out of the seven contesting the elections, which stands a chance of emerging with significant support.

Part of its strength is attributed to Major D'Aubuisson himself, the only politician to have taken his campaign to rural areas where voters live.

Surrounded by guards armed with assault rifles, sawn-off shotguns and grenades, the major travels in an armour-plated vehicle, enhancing his image of *machismo* by allowing his travel plans to be known in advance as an invitation to the guerrillas, who have threatened to eliminate him, to attack his entourage.

His campaign is backed by big landowners, members of El Salvador's middle class and, most significantly, by the military.

A former member of the National Guard, the paramilitary force modelled on Spain's Civil Guard, which has been held responsible for widespread excesses against Salvadorean civilians, Major D'Aubuisson has, in the past, enjoyed the protection of General José Guillermo Garci, the junta's Miniter of Defence.

Although Major D'Aubuisson professes to believe in democracy, he has been accused twice in the past two years of plotting to overthrow the Government because of its commitment to political and social reforms.

Thanks to his links with the military, he is believed to have attracted the backing of the "death squads," the armed groups responsible for conducting a reign of terror in country areas where civilians suspected of sympathizing with the guerrillas are murdered regularly as a warning to others.

Officials at the United States Embassy in San Salvador make no effort to hide their disquiet that the major may attract sufficient support to be able to demand the removal of Predident Duarte from the junta after the March 28 vote.

The major has vowed that he will not allow the election to result in a "communist constitution" for El Salvador. Apart from that, his policies are summed up under such vague slogans as "peace, progress and liberty".

However, a member of his entourage in Nueva Concepción shed some light on the frantic fears that lie behind the majors campaign.

"If this country doesn't go communist, it will be a miracle", said Mr Arnold Canton, a businessman who devotes all his free time to campaigning for Arena. "The guerrillas are almost in power and what does the State Department want? Human rights. What rubbish."

Poles admit unrest but deny strikes

From Roger Boyes Warsaw, Feb 3

The Polish Government today admitted that militia and riot police used water hoses and tear gas to disperse 3,000 demonstrators in Gdansk last weekend.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the Government spokesman, revealed the details of the demonstration at a news conference during which he denied that there was widespread unrest in the country as a result of food price increases.

Mr Urban's estimate of the number of demonstrators involved in the Gdansk protest exceeded even unofficial estimates. He emphasized, however, that nobody was killed and he stood by the first official reports that only 14 people had been injured. The militia acted, according to Mr Urban, when the demonstrators tried to persuade workers to lay wreaths at the foot of a cross commemorating the shooting of protesting workers in 1970.

However, the spokesman denied that there had been strikes throughout the country. At the Ursus tractor factory in Warsaw there had been particularly heated "discussions" over the price rises and the need for compensation, he said; but did not elaborate. In Wroclaw, there was "a type of a youth demonstration in one of the dormitories of the polytechnics", the students had sung and shouted anti-state slogans.

Unofficial reports maintained that Ursus was shut down briefly for "repairs" and that there were go-slows in several factories in Wroclaw and Lodz.

Mr Urban did not volunteer any information about the unrest and all of his facts were disclosed reluctantly in response to questions. The news conference was technically dedicated to a report on the state of Polish agriculture.

The situation appears to be calm in the capital and the authorities have been confident enough about the mood in Gdansk to organize a trip to the port for foreign correspondents yesterday. However, the return of the students still presents a problem. Talks were scheduled in the Ministry for Higher Education today about whether to start the undergraduate term as planned tomorrow.

According to a student leader, Warsaw university may stagger the beginning of term with political science and journalism students starting only on February 13 to give additional time to the political vetting of lecturers and reduce the possibility of staff-student unrest.

Mr Urban conceded that there was some disgruntlement about the food price rises. But "the majority of the community — and it is a growing majority — understands the need for price increases. Unlike 1976, or December 1970, there are no protests or riots — nothing spectacular", he claims.

Meanwhile, Archbishop Jozef Glemp, the Polish Primate, is due to travel to Rome tomorrow for talks with the Pope. The talks are intended to deal with the Pope's planned visit to Poland in August and the now inseparable issues of martial law and internment.

The Primate hoped to visit an internment centre outside Warsaw today in order to be able to present an up-to-date account of the internment situation to the Pope. However, after journalists discovered the planned trip, the episcopate appears to have decided that it would be better for the Primate to rest.

☐ Paris: The decision of M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, to receive Mr Jozef Czyrek, the Polish Foreign Minister, at the Quai d'Orsay this afternoon illustrates the difficulties the Socialist Government faces in its attempts to "moralize" French political life (Charles Hargrove writes).

M Cheysson has laid himself open to sharp criticism not only from the Opposition but also from some left-wing quarters. The fact that his meeting with the representative of the Polish military regime took place in a rather shamefaced, hole-in-the-corner fashion — the presence of photographers, apparently, was regarded as "unnecessary" — only makes matters worse.

Press freedom

'El País in takeover battle'

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Feb. 3.

The editor of one of Spain's leading newspapers which has closely tied its fortunes to the survival of te country's new democracy, will visit London tomorrow.

El Pais, now in its sixth year since first appearing within six months of General Franco's death, has become remarkably influential as well as successful. But there is a shadow over its future as a group of right-wing shareholders prepare a takeover bid for this summer. Their target is the editorial independence of Señor Huan Luis Cebrián and his staff.

On the night of the military coup attempt last February 23, while 350 Spanish MPs and the full Cabinet were still held at gunpoint in the Cortés, *El Pais* got a special edition on to the streets with banner headlines punning on its name: "The country stands by the constitution — *viva la constitución.*"

Rightists, small in number but close to the levers of power and with behind the scenes political infuence, have not forgiven the newspaper for that rallying cry to the forces of democracy.

Señor Cebrian told *The Times* that the secret of his paper's editorial independence has hitherto been the diffusion of its shareholders — 1,200 people ranging from provincial university professors to several of the leading political figures of the transition period to democracy on both the right and left, but no one with a large packet of shares.

"A group of highly conservative-minded shareholders now believe *El Pais* is not responding to what they wanted. Basically the conflict comes from one sector who put money into the paper and believe they can control the editorial line," Señor Cebrian went on.

A senior executive explained he believes that a wealthy Madrid lawyer and businessman, aided by a former deputy editor of the newspaper who left, are behind a secret operation buying up *El Pais* shares to force a change of its editorial line at the annual shareholders' meeting in June. This is not an illegal operation but he said that it *did* contravene *El Pais's* own statutes.

The newspaper's publisher and one of its founders is Señor Joé Ortega, son of the Spanish liberal philosopher, who in the months before General Franco's death, collected together shareholders and a team of young journalists whose average age is still below 30.



Señor Cebrian: Fortunes tied to Spanish democracy.

Conservative circles are particularly critical of the editorial page and its so-called Free Tribune which, Señor Cebrián explained, upholds the newspaper's principle of genuine independence by inviting people with left-of-centre views to contribute.

A senior newspaper executive in Madrid commented: "After they got rid of Señor Suárez [the former Prime Minister] the right-wingers' one big foe is *El Pais.*"

This year is a crucial one for Spain with the trial of senior army officers accused of involvement in the coup attempt and a keenly contested general election in sight.

Señor Cebrián denies, however, a right-wing claim to control 30 per cent of the shares already, maintaining that according to his calculations they muster less than 20 per cent.

The real power, he says, lies in the hands of the 21-member board of directors who control 40 per cent of the shares. "But there is no very defined proprietor, no one proprietor for me to telephone, and this gives the people who make the newspaper a power which otherwise perhaps we would not have. In the complicated period facing us perhaps that is what makes the people who have real power, the establishment, seek to control us."

Madrid's journalistic community has been hearing rumours that the Government is not unhappy with the takeover going forward. The other day, a close aide of Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, indicated that the Government was "deeply concerned" over the threat to *El Pais*.

On the allegation that the paper takes a line too much in favour of the Socialists, Señor Cebrián said: "If we can criticize a Centre Democrat Government perhaps it will be easier for us to criticize, as we centainly will, the Socialists if they win power."

More than 100 testify in Atlanta murder trial

From Our Own Correspondent, New York, February 3

The prosecution case against Mr Wayne Williams, charged with killing two of the string of missing and murdered young blacks in Atlanta, is expected to be completed this week.

More than 100 witnesses have testified since the trial opened on December 28, and many have described seeing Mr Williams with at least five of the 26 victims.

Judge Clarence Cooper has allowed the prosecution to introduce evidence relating to 10 other deaths in an attempt to show a pattern of activity involving Mr Williams and several of the victims.

Mr Williams who is 23 and describes himself as a music promoter and freelance photographer, affirms that he knew none of the victims. But some witnesses said he attended three of the funerals.

The prosecution has attempted to prove that Mr Williams practised homosexuality. A youth of 16 today claimed that he had been offered $20 (just over £10) for a sexual act.

Three serologists from the Georgia crime laboratory testified earlier this week that bloodstains found in Mr Williams's car matched the blood types of two of the victims.

Stiff sentences in US slave case

From Christopher Thomas, New York, Feb 3

Three men were sent to jail today, one for life, for kidnapping and holding workers in involuntary servitude on a farm in North Carolina.

Although it is an extreme example, the case has highlighted the exploitation of migrant workers in the United States. The evidence suggests that tens of thousands of illegal immigrants are being employed for token wages.

Judge Earl Britt said in sentencing the men in the District court at New Bern, North Carolina, that he was imposing stiff penalties as a warning to others. John Harris, aged 39, was jailed for life for what the judge called "strong arm kidnapping". His criminal record included possession fo explosives, manslaughter and a pending case of alleged murder.

Dennis Warren, aged 19, and his brother Richard, aged 22, were convicted of recruiting migrant workers from cities along the eastern seaboard and holding them against their will last summer at a farm in Nash County, North Carolina.

One of the men in their employ died in the fields after being compelled to work despite complaints that he was ill. Mr Warren was sentenced to 20 years for his conspiracy in the death; his brother was cleared of conspiracy and sentenced to six months' imprisonment followed by five years' probation on slavery charges.

In a less spectacular example of exploitation of migrant workers, dozens of Indonesians have just been discovered working in Beverly Hills and Los Angeles as servants for wealthy families. The indications are that a highly efficient smuggling operation is under way to get the Indonesians into the country without papers.

A man believed to be linked with the smuggling operations was today arrested in Jakarta. He is likely to be charged with recruiting Indonesians to work as indentured servants, according to United States Embassy officials in the capital.

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Brezhnev takes US to task for slow arms talks

Moscow, Feb 3. — President Brezhnev today accused the United States of dragging its feet at nuclear missile talks in Geneva and called for agreement on a two-thirds reduction in medium-range nuclear weapons by 1990.

The Soviet leader who was talking to representatives of Socialist International, also firmly rejected Presidents Reagan's Notion of "linkage" in Soviet-American relations, Tass said.

Moscow viewed patient and constructive talks aimed at real reductions in East-West arms levels as the only way to solve world tensions, Mr Brezhnev said.

He suggested that the United States had displayed a different attitude at the Geneva talks.

"The initial stage of these talks gives rise to a certain wariness because of the obvious reluctance of the American side to look for a basis of a mutually acceptable agreement", he said.

The Geneva negotiations, which started in November, aim at limiting deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe. The United States is calling on Moscow to remove its triple-warhead SS20 missiles and plans to deloy nearly 600 cruise and Pershing2 missiles of its own from next year if no agreement is reached.

Both sides agreed to strict secrecy at the start of the negotiatons. Mr Brezhnev's remarks today, indicating Soviet impatience with their progress, was the first substantial comment on them from either Washington or Moscow.

The Soviet President renewed earlier calls for a moratorium on further missile deployment and for an agreement reducing missile stocks by hundreds of units. But for the first time he outlined in public a possible timetable for these cuts.

"It would be possible, for instance, to cut by 1998 the present amount of medium-range nuclear armaments by each side to one-third or even less", he said.

The President said "the two sides could agree to a stage-by-stage reduction that would mean cutting the arsenals of both in the next few years by approximately a third and then going further ahead".

Western diplomats said the proposal of a two-thirds cut had already been made in private by Soviet officials in talks with United States officials. They said Mr Brezhnev's comments did not contain any substantially new proposals because he based his calls for sharp reductions in arms on the premise that there was a balance of power between East and West.

The Soviet Union says that both sides have about 1,000 medium-range nuclear missile carriers. It includes British and French missiles and United States forward-based systems in its calculations. The American side rejects this argument and says a build-up of more than 150 SS20 missiles in the past few years has given Moscow an advantage and left the West dangerously exposed.

Mr Brezhnev rejected outright Mr Reagan's demands that arms questions be linked with Moscow's behaviour generally in foreign affairs and that the Kremlin agree to show restraint in its dealings with Third World states.

"Diplomacy requires denouements and not linkages", he was quoted as saying. "The tangled knot of conflict situations and disputed problems in the world cannot be cut by any sword. The only way is the way of patient constructive talks, talks ensuring a real reduction and destruction of arms".

The remarks came at a meeting with leaders of the Socialist International's council on disarmament at the Kremlin. The group included Mr Kalevi Sorsa, chairman of Finland's Social Democratic Party, and Mr Walter Hacker, a senior official in the Austrian Socialist Party.

Socialist International, which comprises more than 50 socialist and social democratic parties, has been trying to find ways of facilitating East-West agreements on arms cuts.

Marchais stays in driving seat

M Georges Marchais, the General Secretary of the French Communist Party, addressing the opening session of the party's congress in Paris yesterday. Judging by the loudness of the applause that greeted him, his position is still unchallenged (Charles Hargrove writes from Paris). The general line of the five-day congress is more one of continuity than of change, despite the unprecedented democratic debate in party cells and branches throughout the country which has preceded it in the past three months.

M Marchais insisted that the responsibility for the party's setback at the polls last summer when it lost a quarter of its voters, was "collective". Nor could it be pinned on "the leaders and the militants who have preceded us". It was, he stressed, a consequence of the fact that the French Communist Party "remains the prisoner of a socialist model unadapted to our country and our age". By concluding the common programme with the Socialists in 1972, the party had also "placed itself in a position of weakness" towards both them and the right.

The party was still committed, he added, to *"Socialism à la Française"*, in line with the conclusions of its twenty-second and twenty-third congresses. That means there will be no break with the past, and the party will continue to advocate a policy based on social justice and economic growth, with private ownership and small enterprises functioning alongside an enlarged public sector.

He went on to emphasize the importance of democratic change in such a socialist society, and of individual and collective freedoms "to which Communists are indefectibly attached". He also recalled his party's "condemnation without appeal of Stalinism".

M Marchais gave the Government good marks for "moving in the right direction", though serious problems remained. Criticism of its actions will be left to other speakers.

There was no question of France surrendering its nuclear forces unilaterally, he emphasized. As a member of the Atlantic alliance, France should carry out its commitments.

Von Bulow 'confessed to affair'

Newport, Rhode Island, Feb.—Claus, von Bulow once confesed he was having an affair with another woman, his stepson testified today at Mr von Bulow's trial on charges of trying to murder his wife.

The confession came in the library of Mr von Bulow's Manhattan flat in January, 1981, about a month after his wife had been taken to hospital in a coma, according to Prince Alexander, von Auersperg, aged 22, a Brown University student.

"My sister asked my stepfather about rumours she had heard about him having affairs with other women," Prince von Auersperg said. "My stepfather said that after my younger sister was born my mother was unable to have sex and he looked towards other women,"

Asked by Mr Stephen Famiglietti, the prosecutor, whether a name was mentioned, the Prince replied: "Yes, Alexandra Isles."

According to court documents, Mr von Bulow and Miss Isles, a New York socialite and actress, went on holiday together in the Bahamas within two months after Mrs Martha "Sunny" von Bulow fell into what doctors have called an irreversible comma on December 21, 1980.

Mr von Bulow faces two counts of assault with intent to murder his wife with injections of insulin during Christmas visits to her mansion in 1979 and 1980.

The court began hearing evidence yesterday after prosecution accusations that the Danish-born financier was a fortune hunter with an eye on his wife's estate.

Yesterday, Prince von Auersperg recalled a conversation with his mother during the Thanksgiving weekend of 1980, a month before she became ill, in which she said she considered divorcing Mr von Bulow.

"My mother said she wanted a divorce", he said. "I asked her why, and she said it was something so horrible she didn't want to tell me. I asked her again and she said it was too horrible to say".

Prince von Auersperg was expected to continue on the witness stand today for more questioning by the prosecution and the first cross-examination by Mr Herald Fahringer, for the defence.—AP

£5m art robbery

Barcelona. — Police here are holding a Belgian accused of stealing art works worth about £5m from Spanish churches and monasteries. Most of the stolen objects were recovered.

The Great British pay-out

From Ian Murray Brussels, Feb 3

Hopes of agreeing broad guidelines for Britain's budgetary contribution to the EEC have virtually been abandoned. Initial soundings by the European Commission and the Belgian Presidency about a solution to the problem have shown that only by discussing real figures is there any chance of success.

Throughout the negotiations on the issue so far Britain has been insisting that the proper procedure is to agree on the principles by which budget contributions should be calculated and that, after this has been done, the details of financial mechanisms can be worked out.

France, however, has increasingly taken the line that it is impossible to negotiate in the abstract and that there has to be a real knowledge of how much the deal will cost each country before agreement can be possible.

Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister and current President of the Council of Ministers, said this week that he had to "try something new to arrive at a meaningful dialogue." So he has given up the idea of finding guidelines and in his discreet contacts with other EEC governments he is seeking to quantify in hard cash the amount of money each country is prepared to pay towards a budget rebate for Britain.

Britain's only real ally in looking for a "guideline" solution is West Germany and it is no coincidence that these are the only two countries which by any scenario would be net payers into the community. At the same time the resigned British acceptance that it will have to play the numbers game is evident from the release of Whitehall calculations this week of the extent of British payments if there is no budget deal.

According to these figures Britain would have to pay in £1.140m more than it received and West Germany £1.040m. All the others would be net beneficiaries. Italy would receive £539m, Ireland £393m, Greece £337m, Belgium £269m, Denmark £202m, Luxembourg £178m, Holland £176m and France £59m.

There are no official figures for this and each country has been doing its own calculations along less than objective lines. Nevertheless the British figures are probably in line with what would be the eventual totals and they show that, significantly, it would not take a very large adjustment in payments to turn France from being a net beneficiary into a net contributor.

Jeering fails to disturb Mauroy's optimism

From Charles Hargrove, Evreux, Feb 3

M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, chose upper Normandy and this small town, hard hit by recession for the last lap of his "Tour de France for employment", as he calls it, which began in October. It opened in the euphoria of the "pink wave" which carried the Socialists to power; it ended in a more sober mood amid growing discontent, and demonstrations against his Government.

In Rouen, earlier yesterday, 5,000 shopkeepers and artisans. Kept by riot police on the far bank of the Seine from the *préfecture* where M Mauroy was speaking, shouted unflattering but rhymed slogans, as they would in the city of Corneille.

The farmers, who had also prepared a warm welcome for him, were persuaded to go away, the more so as they intended to hold their fire for Mme Edith Cresson, the Minister of Agriculture, who was in Caen yesterday, and whom they planned to kidmap for three days to make her milk cows and show her what it was like.

"They should welcome her with flowers instead," M Mauroy declared in Rouen, "for she is battling for them in Brussels against the British, the Germans and the Dutch."

None of this seems to undermine the Prime Minister's optimism, his fondness for personal contacts with everyone, supporters and opponents alike.

"We live in a country where dialogue and consultation remain too rare", he said in Evreux.

Generation game: Two of the 600 participants of the ninth open tournament at the Guy Mocquet lycée in Aubervilliers, near Paris, demonstrating their different approaches to chess. Local club members and international masters compete for the 24,000 francs (£2,120) first prize.

Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

Italian Communists find their feet

The bitter open quarrel and the lengthy recriminations which are being exchanged between the Italian and Soviet Communist Parties (*Unita's* first answer's to *Pravada's* attack will be soon followed by others). raise the question of what will be the political strategy, and influence, of the PCI — the biggest Communist Party outside the Soviet Block — both in Italy and in the wide world, now that it is free from its Soviet ties.

In Italy, Signor Enrico Berlinguer's party is already "back in business' as a moving element of Italy's fragmented political scene. It has started a strong "disturbing action" against Comrade Bettino Craxi's Socialist Party by insisting that a new "alternative of the left" has now become possible: this hinders Signor Craxi's strategy, aiming at taking the leadership of a centre-left block excluding the communists.

Signor Berlinguer could do nothing different right now: he could not go back to a "historical compromise" with the Christian Democrats just when he is leading the party in a bitter fight with the Soviet Union, which disturbs a large number of his nore traditional supporters, For the time being he is bound to try to translate his elusive formula of the "third way" into a more acceptable "alternative of the left".

But these are just his initial moves. The future rules of the political game in Italy are still to be written. We witness the beginning of a "triangular system", where each of the three main blocks (the Christian Democrats, the Communists, the Socialist-"Liberal" Alliance) will play with a number of possible combinations and formulas.

The socialists being the central-party in this system, they should have the widest choice. For the moment they will insist on their strategy of a centre-left coalition, hoping that they can convince their partners to accept Signor Craxi as a new Premier until the next elections.

But if their ambitions were to suffer a severe repulse by the Christian Democrats they might threaten to choose an "alternative of the left" strategy. The fact that they have more than one choice may strengthen towards the Christian Democrats.

But the DC has already shown in the past its tactical mobility, and it might again prefer tohave a "grand coalition", including the Communists, rather than submit to the Socialist blackmail. Communist ministers should be less objectionable today, both inside and outside Italy, than they were in the past.

Anyway, a triangular situation (Britain might come to face it in the near future) lends itself to any number of potential combinations. This will not increase Italy's governmental stability, which is bad. But the inevitable changes in the strategies and images of all political parties could reduce the large existing psychological gap between public opinion and the politicians, and this would be good for Italian democracy.

Outside Italy, what is going to happen? Two points must be borne in mind. The first one is that the PCI will continue acting as a Communist Party. This is its only chance, if it wants to have real influence in those areas — Western Communism, the non-aligned countries, the world left — which it has chosen as its operating ground. The second point is that the PCI will have an extremely active "foreign policy". Its "internationalist" vocation is a genuine one.

Of course the PCI will not be able to create serious problems for Soviet power inside the Soviet block, at a time of severe repression. But it will go on embodying a dangerous, ideological political alternative as long as it continues being "a Communist Party", which is what it wants to be. The Kremlin leaders may reach the conclusion that a proper excommunication of the PCI is advisable in order to reduce its negative influence. But Moscow's excommunications today carry a doubtful weight.

Outside Moscow's reach, behind the protective shield of the Atlantic alliance, Signor Berlinguer's unusual Communist Party will in any case continue creating difficulties for Soviet aims in the wide world. But it will not be an easy partner in the Western community, and it will also hinder Atlantic strategy in many areas.

From now on, the PCI will do both things more vigorously than ever before.

ALGIERS GAS SECURED BY FRANCE

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Feb. 3

An agreement was signed in Algiers today on inreased deliveries of Algerian gas to France. M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Minister, said it was "not a mere commercial contract, but a fundamental agreement on coodevelopment".

M Pierre Berégovoy, the Secretary-General of the Elysée Palace, said: "It demonstrates the determination of Paris to contribute to the valorization of the natural resources of developing countries in accordance with the South dialogue".

The agreement was preceded by two years of difficult negotiations

In the end, the French Government has agreed to pay a "political" price for the gas, although this is not admitted officially. Nor has the price been disclosed. But it is reliably believed to be about $5.20 (£2.73) a million British Thermal Units compared with the current price paid by the French gas board of $3.70 and it is about 20 per cent more than the price agreed in the Siberian gas contract signed last month.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Modernize army, China told

Peking.— General Yang Dezhi, Chief of Staff of China's four-million-strong armed forces, said they could not engage an enemy in modern warfare unless organization and discipline were improved. According to *China Daily*. an official newspaper, he declared: "We are faced with a highly modernized and well trained, powerful enemy. To deal with such an enemy we need not only high morale but also expertise in using modern weapons..

"If we fail to upgrade the organization and discipline of the armed forces," he said, "We would not be able to engage an enemy in modern warfare and might have to pay a higher price in the event of an emergency".

The report did not identify the enemy, but China regularly remarks on the presence of a million Soviet troops along its borders and accuses Moscow of seeking to subjugate China.

Egyptian border stays closed

Cairo. — Egypt has said that its border with Libya will remain closed, despite recent signs that both countries were easing restrictions.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry had said the border, closed for the past three years, was being opened for authorized groups of Egyptians working in Libya to return home for holidays. But a Cabinet spokesman later said "the border was only opened briefly to allow 27 teachers and their families to cross because of their special circumstances".

Gambians given death sentence

Banjul. — Six Gambians have been sentenced to death for their part in an attempted coup last July. The judge took 10 hours and 25 minutes to read a 400-page judgment condemning the men variously for murder, treason, felony, waging war and planning to depose and kill President Sir Dawda Jawara.

Seven people were sentenced to death in December for their part in the failed Marxist takeover. Two others have been acquitted.

Kosovo jailings

Belgrade. — More than 280 people have been jailed for their part in violent Albanian nationalist riots in which at least nine people were killed in the southern Yugoslav province of Kosovo last spring, Mr Mehmet Malici, the Provincial Interior Minister, said.

Force-feeding threatened

Miss Lida Vashchenko, who ended a month-long hunger strike after being taken to hospital at the weekend. She has claimed that she cut short her protest after being threatened with force-feeding.

In a letter to her family living in the American Embassy in Moscow, Miss Vashchenko, aged 30, quoted a Soviet doctor at the Botkin Hospital, Moscow as telling her on Sunday evening: "If you don't eat, we will feed you with a tube down your throat. We don't want to, but we will".

Miss Vashchenko wrote that she had suffered a high fever and became delirious for a short time on Sunday. "Now", her letter went on, "my health is getting better because I am eating. I think soom I will be before the KGB. It will be in their hands when I can stand firmly on my two feet".

Dr John Schadler, the doctor at the Embassy, and a consular officer visited Miss Vashchenko in the gastro-intestinal unit of the hospital for 30 minutes yesterday.

Zimbabwe law chief told to quit

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Feb 3

The Attorney General of Zimbabwe has been asked to resign his post to make way for a black man, Mr Robert Mugabe, The Prime Minister, confirmed today.

Asked at a press conference why Br Brendan Treacy, who is 57, was being replaced, Mr Mugabe said it was part of a programmme of Africanizing crucial posts.

Mr Treacy has been Attorney General since 1975 and was responsible for the decision in 1980 to prosecute Mr Edgar Tekere, former Minister of Manpower and secretary-general of the ruling Zanu (PF) party, on a charge of murdering a white farmer.

Last month, Mr Treacy announced that he was bringing charges against two senior members of the national army — a lieutenant-general and a brigadier — over incidents involving a team of white bowlers who claimed that they were harassed and detained after a match at a military barracks in Salisbury.

Mr Mugabe said that the government had been pursuing a policy of African advancement, but had generally waited for posts to fall vacant through resignation before installing blacks in them.

At the same time, "structural appointments" were being made in the Ministry of Justice and it had been decided to replace Mr Treacy.

Mr Treacy declined to discuss the matter other than to confirm that he had been asked to resign.

Should he decline it coud cause the Government considerable embarrassment. The post is entrenched by the constitution and he can be removed only for professional misconduct or incompetence agreed by a judicial tribunal.

☐ Mr Treacy, later told Reuters that he would be leaving the country. He said: "I have been asked to leave. No reason was given".

Propaganda in Soviet Union

Sociology fills the KGB gap

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

One of the most notoriously freewheeling Soviet republics has set up a sociology centre to spearhead a campaign against old traditions local nationalism and entrenched bourgeois attitudes.

The centre in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, is also charged with sampling public opinion and telling the Communist Party what the average citizen thinks and wants. Public opinion, ignored by a generation of Soviet leaders, is increasingly making itself felt in all aspects of Soviet life, and the authorities are eager to use and direct this powerful potential to enforce the party line where exhortation and propaganda have failed.

As even President Brezhnev has recognized, party leaders find themselves dangerously out of touch with the views of the masses. There is virtually no debate at party and trade union meetings, the Soviet citizen has long grown used to expressing only the opinions he thinks the authorities want to hear, and regular secretly compiled reports by the KGB, the security police, are almost the only steady flow of information the leadership receives about the real state of the nation.

This gap is now being filled with sociology, but with a very different framework from its Western counterpart. The main task of Soviet sociologists is to conduct opinion surveys — in factories, schools among youth groups, pensioners and other designated social groups.

The results are sent to factory directors, city authorities and, especially, to local party committees to be used as a basis for decision-making.

A second task, however, is to mould public opinion and see how it can be used to back the party line. The Tbilisi centre, with six "laboratories" concentrating on different aspects of life, is typical: it has been charged with eradicating Georgian customs unacceptable to the modern secular state — lavish weddings and funerals, manifestations of private enterprise, nationalism, drunkenness and the macho tradition. But first, it must find out their extent and then plot a strategy for their destruction.

In Georgia this is particularly important, as is publicly admitted, because of the "shortcomings" of the previous party leadership, swept away not long ago in a massive purge that revealed widespread corruption at the highest levels.

"Sociology is a political and party science", Dr Taimuraz Jafarli, the centre's director, said in a recent interview with *Sovietskaya Rossiya*. He said the links with the party apparatus not only gave the party firmly-grounded evidence for its work, but endowed sociologists themselves with a special significance, dynamism and political awareness.

He admitted that sociology could never come up with absolute answers, and was sometimes wrong. He spoke of the difficulties of finding out — even through anonymous surveys — what people really wanted. But the main difficulty, which he did not discuss, is that such surveys are themselves ideologically cirumscribed: they cannot ask open-ended questions that could produce results incompatible with communist teaching.

But, he said, the distillation of public opinion was essential if the party were to rekindle enthusiasm and initiative and motivate people to work harder — tasks Mr Brezhnev said were urgent at last year's party congress.

Sociological surveys have produced striking results in individual instances; on the other hand, the surveys are often ignored.

The main aim of Soviet sociology, on which great hopes are now officially placed, is the nurturing of public opinion. As Soviet society becomes more complex, and people better educated, the authorities have found it no longer possible simply to issue orders, which can run into a wall of passive resistance. People have to be convinced of the reasons and justification for these orders. And centres such as the one in Tbilisi must provide the evidence.

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AMERICAN BOOKS

Thurber's-eye view of the world Jottings from a slim postbag

Selected Letters of James Thurber

Edited by Helen Thurber and Edward Weeks
(Hamish Hamilton, £8.95)

James Thurber's widow and an old friend have put together 260-odd pages of letters, selected, as the jacket puts it, from a "mass of correspondence". If Thurber was, as is suggested, a voluminous correspondent, the selection must have been very rigorous. The letters of his friend E. B. White, happily still going strong, which were published a few years ago, weigh in at just under 700 pages. Those of Edmund Wilson on politics and literature alone fill more than 740. What is more the White and Wilson collections are closely printed, where the Thurber has great extravagant expanses of empty paper and, in themselves welcome, many of his drawings.

This is, in fact, pretty much a matter of fragrant moments in James Thurber's postbag. Since he was a careful and gifted writer, although a slow and infarcted one, there is naturally enjoyment to be found. Some of that enjoyment is memorial, an awakening in the mind of past pleasures, above all of seeing such things as the Dr Millmoss-containing hippopotamus again. Some comes from turns of phrase. Such as "Yesterday was hot and muggy, like a fifteen year old Pekinese". Or, inspired by Laurence Olivier's different rendering of the line "she should have died hereafter". *The Thurber version of this line gives it an impatient note and I think that I am on sound ground here not only as a student of Macbeth but as a husband of many years' experience. My feeling is that Macbeth had plenty on his hands the way it was . . .*

These things are pleasant enough but do not call for any prominent position in one's cabinet of memories. The editors have ruled out any quasi-biographical service the book might have performed by what they euphoniously describe as their "departure from the iron grip of chronology". One is inclined to reply that one man's iron grip is another man's abdominal support. No very useful alternative value is realised by grouping together letters to particular correspondents. Few of the people Thurber wrote to get many letters here. Among the few who do, E. B. White and his wife have their letters divided into two chunks.



Good letters, letters worth reading by people unacquainted with writer or addressee, should have some substance, ideally news, however small, interspersed with character sketches. White is himself excellent at this. Thurber could have picked up some hints from White's to him of January 8, 1938, which covers a mass of personal ground that has some public interest and closes with a chilling account of the last years of Don Marquis, creator of archy, who *had a stroke, lost his money, lost his second wife, had a couple of other strokes, and finally ended up in Kew Gardens or some damn place living with a sister.*

The crucial difference is that White is interested in the world around him; Thurber is concerned only with himself, and the world enters in largely as an object of his interest in how he reacts to it and should represent it.

There is very little to be learnt here about Thurber's life or his world. Dinner with Noel Coward is in the most direct tradition of the late C. R. Attlee: "We had dinner with Noel Coward, just the three of us, a lovely time, a swell fellow." Only when he is writing in a rather narrowly professional way about such things as the arrangement of the chapters in a book he is writing or about the stinginess of *The New Yorker* under Ross to its contributors is there anything much to bite on. The picture his biographers so far have painted of Thurber is none too engaging. Here things have been much cleaned up. There is a little reference to drinking, nothing about the pursuit of women. There is one good political sentence on McCarthy: "I wait for the moment when he will make a slip of the tongue and call Eisenhower 'Hindenburg'."

The editors admit to some correction of the text in the interests of tidiness. A champagne misspelling has eluded them; Pol Roget makes one think in compensation of Roger's *Thesaurus* (a compendium of rude words, perhaps). One literary-historical point gets through. T. S. Eliot, delighted to be fed "fancy food with sauce and wine", lunches most rationally off two martinis, scrambled eggs and bacon and then chocolate ice cream.

Anthony Quinton

Prisoner of the SLA: poor little rich girl

Every Secret Thing
By Patricia Campbell Hearst
(Methuen, £8.95)

It is not, alas, given to all of us, by the time we reach our mid-thirties, to have grown up in one of the world's richest families, to have been kidnapped by revolutionaries, joined their cause, robbed banks at gunpoint, spent two years on the run, been caught, convicted and sentenced, then spent two years in jail before receiving a free pardon from the President of the United States.

Even fewer of us, I suspect, would subsequently have made a complete recovery, married our bodyguard, started a family, written a lucrative bestseller about it all, and lived happily ever after.

It is quite a tale Patty Hearst has to tell. With the help of one Alvin Moscow, she does so absorbingly. But the trouble with this hefty tome is that it is probably the only account we will ever have of all this, and it is hers. What a shame, one keeps reflecting, that the Symbionese Liberation Army did not abduct a moral philosopher.

Contemporary liberal America tends to sneer at Miss Hearst's hard-won renown, and and to scoff at her many and various self-defences. Her supposed brainwashing by the SLA is called into question. As is her argument, fundamental to her ordeal, that being who she is, the daughter of one of those families decreed by conspiracy theorists to run the United States, only made her fate more wretched.

Not merely did it make her captors more vicious, she suggests, mixing random sexual and psychological abuse in among her impressively successful guerrilla training. It later made judges, intent on conspicuous even-handedness, err on the side of harshness. It made her, in short, one of the classic victims of our (their ?) crazed contemporary society.

My sympathies, I must confess, lie rather with Miss Hearst. Let him or her content to undergo a similar ordeal cast the first stone. It *is* an extraordinary twist at the end of this latter-day parable that she received a sterner jail sentence than any of her co-revolutionaries, who were not even tried for anything so severe as armed robbery (let alone kidnapping). The fact that she was coerced into taking part, whatever the objective evidence, if anything told against her.

Her chronicle, it is true, gets off to a bad start. In describing her life at the time she was abducted, and the slightly risqué life she was living at Berkeley University in the company of one Steven Weed, her prose style is reminiscent of another poor little rich girl, Gloria Vanderbilt: "Living together was a very 'in' thing to do in those days, rather like roller disco is today."

Once bound, gagged and blindfold in a revolutionary closet, however, her values as much as her prose style (or Mr Moscow's) undergo a distinct improvement. The bulk of the book is a fascinating account of daily life in the company of a cache of homicidal maniacs, masquerading to themselves as much as anyone else as committed revolutionaries. That her father's famous food distribution programme ever took place in response to their demands now seems the height of absurdity.

But they were in earnest. The way Patty paints her constant and only companions of those two years, they might have killed her on any of a hundred daily whims. Yet when presented with several chances to escape, leaving them to an ugly fate, she chose rather to aid their safe getaway. This is what the law, as much as this reader, found hard to swallow.

When should natural instincts of self-preservation bow to broader social responsibilities? Should a contemporary democracy have written off the hapless Hearst before being offered a chance to absolve her guilt? The central moral dilemmas of this book remain quite unexplored—and unresolved—despite its powers of persuasion that any one of us, in Patty Hearst's position, might have found ourselves robbing banks, blasting away at innocent bystanders and then dividing the spoils with the best of them.

Anthony Holden

Scott Fitzgerald: record of the author as a professional

Some Sort of Epic Grandeur

The Life of F. Scott Fitzgerald
By Matthew J. Bruccoli
(Hodder & Stoughton, £14.95)

Not the sort of epic you might expect, old sport. The Drunken Novelist. The Autodestruct Artist. The Jazz Age Flame. The Depression Dreamer. The Last Romantic. The Writer Who Ate his Wife. The Exile of Hollywood. The Great American Crack-Up. Icarus Vicarious. No, none of these, old familiar tales of Fitz and Hem and the Lost Boys. Professor Bruccoli, a severe scholar from the University of South Carolina with lowering spectacles like those of Dr Eckleberg overlooking the ash-heaps of Long Island, has a different saga to relate. It is time, he tells us, at the outset of his massively researched new biography (the third in English), for "more facts" about a forgotten figure: Fitzgerald the professional author. And the facts are indeed fascinating.

Actually his title does not come, as you might suppose, from *The Great Gatsby* (1925) or even *Tender is the Night* (1934), but from one of Fitzgerald's superbly lucid letters to his daughter Scottie, looking back at his own life and craft two years before his death. It sets the tone for the whole investigation. "I am not a great man, but sometimes I think the impersonal and objective quality of my talent and the sacrifices of it, in pieces, to preserve its essential value has some sort of epic grandeur". It is these "impersonal and objective" qualities that Bruccoli is after through 600 pages and a rapt unflagging attention to the creative and transforming literary process at work.

The backbone of his biography (and it does have a curiously bony, skeletal feel) is Fitzgerald's conversion, observed in minute bibliographic detail, of lived experience into literary production. "My material", as Fitzgerald called it, resulting in some 160 short stories; a host of autobiographic essays, articles, and self-interviews; numerous bad movie scripts (including some lines in *Gone With the Wind*), and five extraordinary novels of self-projection, of which perhaps three are modern classics — characteristically flawed or unfinished yet unforgettable. In particular, Bruccoli follows through, with brilliant effect, the planning and early composition stages of *Tender* and *The Last Tycoon* (posthumous, 1941), and shows Fitzgerald working doggedly, almost relentlessly, through the wreckage of his life with Zelda.



Zelda and Scottie and Fitz

The overall impact of the book is to reverse many of one's preconceptions about Fitzgerald. The glitter of the Twenties, for example, comes to seem far less significant for his inner development as a writer than the bitter gloom of the Thirties. Many critics have examined what destroyed the marriage with Zelda (notably Nancy Mitford, 1970); but Bruccoli also shows what held it together, in imaginative terms, even after they were physically parted. He shows how Zelda provided his work with so many "premonitions", and how their "marathon talks" — or arguments — formed an amazingly enduring basis for their lives. "I have often thought," wrote Fitzgerald, "that those long conversations we used to have late at night, that began at midnight and lasted till we could see the first light of dawn that scared us into sleep, were something essential in our relations, a sort of closeness that we never achieved in the workaday world of marriage."

Similarly, in the last Hollywood years, instead of emphasizing the pale, burnt-out Fitzgerald of legend, Bruccoli shows the incorrigible ironist of the "Pat Hobby" stories (17 of them), the scriptwriter who earned 58 thousand dollars in one year, and the figure of "unassuming dignity" who was discovered by the young novelist Anthony Powell sitting quietly in a corner of the MGM canteen. It's a grandeur that Jay Gatsby might not have recognised. But for anyone who knows remotely what Fitzgerald meant by, "all good writing is swimming under water and holding your breath" — it's epic all right.

Richard Holmes

Jimjokery for James Joyce's centenary

For those of us, this side of bardolatry, who have long shared James Joyce's suspicion that he was perhaps the second greatest writer to have used the English language, February 2nd has always been a day for celebration. This year, however, it marks the centenary of his birth and we may allow ourselves an extra glass of whiskey and another biscuit from the silver barrel. It is perhaps surprising that there have not been more books published to honour the occasion in view of the vast industry that has grown around the work of a man who always supposed he would keep a few professors busy.

The least pleasing is the most obviously erudite — at least in intention. A Starchamber Quiry (Methuen, £8) takes its title from *Finnegans Wake* and the four wise guardians / watchdogs / commentators / apostles for whom "he was ever their quarrel, the way they should see themselves." The four principal essays are revealing enough: but only Professor Hugh Kenner offers any considerable illumination about Joyce, and his particular approach to "modernism". Fritz Senn is out to prove a theory: "The Principle of the Disrupted Pattern". His essay is complicated, intricate, far from lucid in argument, as he seems quite often wilfully to avoid simple and obvious correlations in order to establish a dissonance or trailing thread. E. L. Epstein, the editor of the book, concentrates on Joyce's close absorption with the human body: interestingly focussed on the male, some readers may think that his preoccupation with Shem in *Finnegans Wake* in relation to the celebrating Shaun, and at the expense of the massive physical celebration of the body in all its aspects in *Ulysses*, is an arse-upwards view.

The Joycean Way by Bruce Bidwell and Linda Heffer (Wolfhound, £9) is entirely admirable. With evident pleasure and dedication, these two unpretentious writers have confined themselves to "a topographical guide to *Dubliners* and *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*". Their achievement is very much more. If their maps, photographs and diligent research are not enough, the perception of their criticism will shed new sunlight on corners and byways of Dublin for even the most earnest surrogate citizens. They have provided a helpful pattern for dealing with *Dubliners* and comment on the characters in passing with compassionate dispassion: so that our sentimental inclinations in favour of, say, Maria or Eveline, are tempered by some whispers of understanding for Farrington, Tom Kernan and the Two Gallants. Perhaps the authors underline too heavily Joyce's eastward longing for release: but not for anyone who understands a desire for exile.

Less serious enthusiasts who welcome enthusiasm will find **James Joyce's Odyssey** (Hodder & Stoughton, £8.95) by Frank Delaney vastly entertaining.

Stuart Evans

High mistress of the explaining business

Practicing History
By Barbara Tuchman
(Macmillan, £9.95)

Not many of us are able serve both Clio, Muse of history, and Ephemeris, Muse of journalism. Journalism is a kind of living history. But only very rare Chimeras combine the worm's eye needed for the former with the eagle's eye needed by the latter. Who did both well? H. G. Wells? Old Winston Churchill, would you say? In our generation Barbara Tuchman is the only one I can think of who manages to straddle both inky arts and perform superbly well in each. Her latest book, *A Distant Mirror*, that haunting recreation of the calamitous fourteenth century, simply confirmed her place as our finest narrative historian, who lets the facts and atmosphere speak for themselves and for the past. This collection of essays and reviews, not previously easily available in Britain, shows off the perspective of the historian and the sharp immediacy of the reporter. In both roles, like Pooh-Bah, Tuchman has a genius for the corroborative detail intended to give artistic verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative. Not that her narrative is either bald or unconvincing.

As historian she manages to get in at last that the Kaiser's birthday present to his wife was the same every year: 12 hats selected by himself which she was obliged to wear. That detail is worth a whole book about the Kaiser; or even about Germany. As reporter on the campaign trail with FDR she recorded that a fellow hack stayed on the train in order that the enthusiasm of the crowd might not colour his story. He explained: "When you're a New Dealer writing for a Republican paper, you have to be as objective as hell."

The book is divided into *three parts*. In the first she discusses the craft of writing history. "I do not invent anything, even the weather." She distrusts systematizers. Insistence on a purpose turns a historian into a prophet — and that is a different profession. But there is no such thing as a neutral or purely objective historian. Without an opinion a historian would be simply a ticking clock, and unreadable besides. Tuchman is a humanist who believes that humans are illogical. In the second section she presents a wide selection of the fruits of her craft, ranging from marvellous pieces about Israel to a demolition job on Henry Kissinger's own version of his pretensions and influence as Secretary of State. In the last section she considers whether we can learn from history, and concludes that to manage better next time is within our means; to anticipate does not seem to be. From Watergate to Woodrow Wilson, Tuchman is a paragon at letting human beings in their diversity explain for themselves why they do the daft and occasionally heroic things they do. It is enough to make those of us engaged in the lower reaches of the explaining trade burn our typewriters in despair.

Philip Howard

Poetry

Tony Harrison is a poet. He is also, so it appears, something of a one-man industry. Now 44 years old, and engaged on a sonnet-sequence in roughly Meredithian form, he is at the height of his powers, pouring out poems and translations, and finding publishers for all of his idiosyncratic and (occasionally) magnificent work. We have grown so used to the Larkin Syndrome — whereby a poet publishes a slim volume perhaps once in a decade, as if to prove the worth and difficulty of opening his mouth at all — that Mr Harrison's energy makes him look alarming. Yet the flux of his production is at one with the fury of its content. I take off my sceptical reviewer's hat to him, convinced that I am in the presence of the real right thing.

First, his version of **The Oresteia** of Aeschylus, first performed at the National Theatre last November, and now offered in book form by Rex Collings Ltd (£3.50). This is vivid, gutsy, and agglutinative. I take the last adjective from Ezra Pound, who used it to define the special qualities of the original (*Literary Essays of Ezra Pound*, page 273), while bewailing the fact that a search for Aeschylus in English is "deadly, accursed, mind-rending". Mr Harrison does not mess about. He goes straight for the original glue, and renders it in a sort of sticky, eccentric, slang-inspired English. Orestes instructs Pylades to "keep out of eye shot"; the Chorus turns to Cassandra and mocks her "painpangs and griefsongs" with the nasty retort, "Don't understand". To which, Cassandra, only doing her job after all:

Off with the brideveil then. Look into truth's pupils
The truthgust. It's rising. Blowing fresh headwinds
sweeping sea-ripples into dawn's molten cauldron,
then building a woe-wave as big as a mountain.

I don't much care for "woe-wave" (sounds like Gilbert Murray glued to W. H. Auden), but this is to pick holes in a translation which undoubtedly makes Aeschylus alive again. As the Chorus grudgingly admits to Cassandra: "It's as if you'd witnessed all you're describing." Mr Harrison has grasped and rendered the very essence of Greek drama: that it takes place without ceasing in a theatre of the human soul. More, he has found contemporary English words and idiomatic rhythms to match it. A remarkable achievement. I reckon Pound might have approved.

His **U.S. Martial** (Bloodaxe Books, PO Box 1SN, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE99 1SN, £1) is slighter, but still extremely lively and impressive. Here are 18 translations from poems by Marcus Valerius Martialis, made in March last year while Mr Harrison was staying in New York. The best are obscene and truthful enough to be unquotable. All of them find a happy medium between Martial's epigrammatic disgust with the social and sexual life of Rome round about the time of Christ, and Mr Harrison's feelings about his predicament on Broadway last year. Witnesses number XVI, entitled "The Joys of Separation", which can be quoted in full:

She wants more and more and more new men in her.
Be finally finishes Anna Karenina.
For however many kumquats that I eat
I'm not sure if it's flesh or rind that's sweet,
and being a man of doubt at life's mid-way
I'd offer Keats some kumquats and I'd say:
You'll find that one part's sweet and one part's tart:
say where the sweetness or the sourness start.

And lest this suggests that Tony Harrison is only a kind of Woody Allen of modern English poetry, have a look at his exquisite **A Kumquat for John Keats** (Bloodaxe Books, 75p). A kumquat is a Chinese orange, gold in colour, with sweet pulp and sour skin, or perhaps the reverse, sweet outside and sour within. . . Mr Harrison plays deliciously on the doubt:

This single poem should be sufficient to convince any fair-minded reader that Tony Harrison's is a most considerable talent. It has much to say about Keats, about poetry, about life's brevity, about its compensations (which may well include brevity and Keats), and about the fruit which can also be spelt cumquats. It deserves to be preserved in many anthologies. And at the same time it has to be observed that Mr Harrison is such a restless and original poet that if he goes on at this rate he will prove to be an anthologist's nightmare. Good.

Selected Poems of Alun Lewis (Unwin Paperbacks, £2.50), selected by Jeremy Hooker and Gweno Lewis, presents in the chronological order of their writing the best poems of one of the best poets killed in the Second World War. Lewis has always had his admirers, but he has tended to be regarded as somewhat School of Graves (for no substantial stylistic reason, but because Graves — who never met him — helped to select and then introduced a posthumous volume of his work). He may now be seen as a decent, unpretentious, persistently serious writer, deeply concerned with what he perceived to be "the single poetic theme of Life and Death". Less literary than Sidney Keyes, more accomplished than Keith Douglas, his death (which seems to have been accidental) deprived English poetry of a potentially important voice. Not Just a War Poet. A poet.

Robert Nye

Fiction

The Book of Laughter and Forgetting
By Milan Kundera
(Faber, £7.95)

The Love Hunter
By Jon Hassler
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £6.95)

Max Brod called Prague the city of evil, and no-one knows its ambiguities better than Kundera. Neither laughter nor forgetting are entirely innocent there. You can be airbrushed out of history, like the unfortunate Clementis, who lent his fur hat to the Leader on a snowy balcony in 1948 at a moment of victory, and lost his own head four years later. It is a wry joke that the stairs leading up to that balcony must have once been climbed every day by the schoolboy feet of Franz Kafka.

Prague is a city of many ghosts, not all of them powerful. Kundera concerns himself most with those whose memories have already begun to fade: those in emigration, for instance, or those who lost their jobs after the Russian invasion. Accordingly all the stories linked in this novel concern an obsession with records; Tamina, in exile, dreams of recovering love letters; Mirek, a writer, already in trouble as he is, cannot help keeping notes on everyday events, even though he knows they may well bring friends into danger. Kundera understands the passion, and the comedy of what can't be changed, and exactly how politics link themselves to absurdities of sexual encounters, so that the same Mirek finds it unbearable to remember that his first mistress was notably ugly.

When Kundera appears briefly on the pages of his own novel it is to fill in a few relevant historical details, and to point a finger at Eluard dancing elegantly in the circles of a Prague celebration the day after one of his girlfriends had been hanged by the régime for treason.

In *The Bass Saxophone* Skvorecky, a fellow Czech exile, declared jazz holy, because Nazism and Stalinism abhorred it equally. Kundera adds a footnote to the observation. One of the most telling anecdotes in the book concerns Husak's letter pleading with the Czech popsinger Karel Gott to return from West Germany. Scholars, writers, and filmmakers the regime could spare, but a special letter followed the pop star. Pop music is power without danger. Unlike jazz, pop music accommodates. It is useful. It is essentially music minus memory. And the bitter laughter that rises from that story takes on uneasy echoes of its own in a Western context.

Jon Hassler, comes garlanded with awards and fellowships, and his new novel is written with considerable elegance: but it is a chilling tale. If someone with Multiple Sclerosis is still fit enough to take off on a duck shooting trip, it's hard to accept his friends' murder plan as a loving act, especially when the friend in question fancies his wife. Still, there are memorable descriptions of hiding and wading and waiting, and a funny account of American family pitfalls from a first marriage which is entirely persuasive.

Mazes and Monsters by Rona Jaffe (Hodder & Stoughton, £6.95) makes fewer claims, and for any parents who have watched their own young spend weekends in combat with imaginary monsters, with a "Dungeons and Dragons" Rulebook in their hand, the threat of fantasy taking over altogether will not seem implausible. Accordingly, the book has a genuine anxious thrust of suspense, and most readers will readily Miss Jaffe's account of the multiplicity of ways Americans attempt to make a happy marriage permanently screw up their children's chances of living in the real world. Evidently, that is one game in which nobody wins.

Elaine Feinstein

Interview

The passions of Rostropovich

The National Symphony Orchestra of Washington today embarks on a three-week tour of Europe, its first under the impassioned leadership of Mstislav Rostropovich. He is filled with enthusiasm as he discusses the hectic schedule of the orchestra and its current repertory of works, but becomes sombre as he talks of his late friends, Dmitri Shostakovich and Benjamin Britten. Both had agreed to write new works for the National Symphony but were unable to fulfil their promises.

Rostropovich's face brightens, however, when he is asked about the orchestra's visit to London on February 20. "I so like Great Britain, so like the music there, I ask my dear friend Sir William Walton to write something for us", he says. The commissioned piece was to have been performed earlier in the season in Washington, but Walton was not completely happy with the work and the première had to be postponed. The final pages of the manuscript are to be sent to Zurich for a two-week rehearsal period prior to the orchestra's arrival in London. "I am very proud that the orchestra will première the piece in London, just before Sir William's eightieth birthday", says Rostropovich.

In addition to the Walton, the orchestra will give Beethoven's eighth symphony and Shostakovich's fifth. The Shostakovich is particularly dear to Rostropovich's heart. His friendship with the composer is well-known and, when Rostropovich left the Soviet Union in 1974, it will be recalled that he stated it as his personal mission to make the music of Shostakovich and Prokofiev — "my friends and teachers" — more widely appreciated.

"When Shostakovich wrote his fifth symphony, he was very young", says Rostropovich. "It came just after his crash with catastrophe — when Stalin denounced him for his opera *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*. Shostakovich, who was in the middle of rehearsals for his fourth symphony, withdrew it, and this symphony was not played for 35 years." His next symphony, the fifth, written after a two-year period of great suffering and emotional turmoil, was, Rostropovich says, Shostakovich's defence of his own human worth.

"He had to write, of necessity, a symphony that had two faces. After the première of the symphony, in October 1937, all the official faces, the bureacrats in the Soviet Union, praised it, because they wanted to show Shostakovich that they had taught him to compose, and even taught him a lesson personally. His answer to their criticism was this symphony in D major, and its major tonality made our government happy. But for other reasons also they couldn't *not* praise it, because, even though it was not too complicated, it is a work of such genius and had such a success with the public.



"I wasn't at the performance, being only 11 years old at the time, but people tell me there were ovations lasting maybe an hour. And why? Because it was such a powerful message to his well-wishers who had feared that the critical assault might have destroyed him: 'I'm not dead, I'm still a composer. And still a great composer!'

"I tell you," says Rostropovich, leaning forward in his chair, passion in his voice, "this symphony has two faces. One for the officials who are very happy about the fanfare for the finale, the incredibly loud sound and rich orchestration. But for me, a friend of Shostakovich, that D major is as if your arm is being twisted behind you and there is a knife at your back, and the attacker is telling you 'Smile.' That D major is Shostakovich's smile. For me it is also like a scream of defiance. Each stroke of the note A on the timpani conveys this strength. It is like hitting a nail on the head. Some conductors have a tendency to play this finale a little bit quickly, but I don't think this is possible, and I do it much slower".

Does he feel Shostakovich would have approved of the recent defections of his son and grandson to the West? "Absolutely! Absolutely sure. I don't doubt it for a second", he replies, and adds, after a moment's pause: "I think that this was his influence from the other world."

A deeply religious man, Rostropovich has travelled widely, and he expresses affection for all the cities where he has spent some time. "I know all the good places in each city, all the restaurants", he says, smiling broadly. When asked if there is any place outside Russia he considers home, he thinks for a moment and then replies: "It's very difficult to say. Here there is no monastery, but where there's a monastery there's no orchestra, so each place where I am adds a little bit of happiness to my heart."

"Through sound it is possible to express your disappointment, or your hopelessness, or the opposite, the happy moments . . ."

Inevitably Rostropovich dreams of one day returning to Russia, but he emphasizes that he would never go back under any kind of compromise. He knows that were he now to return to the Soviet Union he would never again be allowed to leave. Of this theoretical situation Rostropovich says: "I would die of loneliness, because now, without this kind of life, without my friends, without freedom, it would be just impossible. This is another reason why I understand how much the people who are locked up are missing. What a crime it is, for instance, that a person of such talent as the pianist Andrei Gavrilov, who won first prize at the Tchaikovsky Competition, is not allowed to perform in the West. Years go by and he is not enriched, and of course when he loses all of Russia loses."

For all Rostropovich's very real concern with human rights, it is his orchestra that at the moment keeps him most occupied. He says it is his aim that it should be as responsive as the human body. "It should have the ability to make a variety of different sounds, because for me sounds not only sound as sound but can be used to explain your soul, your feelings. Through sound it is possible to express your disappointment, or your hopelessness, or the opposite, the happy moments. That's why I love working with an orchestra."

Patricia Barnes

Television

Ring of untruth

Four-hour drama slots with automatic repeats and the money for large casts and lavish location work are not exactly plentiful these days, and it is a great pity that the BBC's latest should have been squandered on something as mincingly Bloomsburyish as **The Bell** (BBC 2). No lover of Iris Murdoch's prose fictions, I did not expect to be ravished by Reg Gadney's dramatization, but neither did I anticipate the sheer silliness of what came out of the tube.

For this is not a work of literary refinement or psychological subtlety. The lines are so mangled that the actors have difficulty speaking them; the characters are crudely and implausibly drawn. A couple like the Greenfields would never have married; a dolt like Dora would need the charm and allure of a Marilyn Monroe to send the chaps over like ninepins as she does. Rural England may indeed be studded with communities of harmless wierdos, but they are not, like these are, made two-dimensionally out of cardboard.

At the opposite pole from Stella Gibbons's *Cold Comfort Farm*, and lacking Ivy Compton Burnett's ironic detachment, the Murdoch/Gadney approach is essentially a cosy one. Behind the whimsical, affectionate mockery lies a solemn acceptance of their bloodless world of nuns and eunuchs; they revel in that world even as, with painful contrivance, they blow it apart. They revel in its clonking symbolism (did you notice, incidentally, how at moments the two-ton bells became light as feathers?) and they revel in its ghastly gentility. Last night, as a change from Dora, we got a bare-breasted nun, and pent-up homosexual Nick shot himself. Missed again: real life is neither so pallid nor so lurid.

Chronicle (BBC 2) was entitled "Ancient Mariners" and hailed from somewhere across the Atlantic. Like most bought-in documentaries it had blemishes which home-grown products have mostly eliminated: crude artists' impressions of Greek slaves at work, faintly hilarious interviews and wooden pieces of commentary. One heavy academic lady spoke of "wood-intensive" methods of boatbuilding, and described a "vicious circle situation" (à propos wars and the demand for ships) with fitting circumlocution.

What the programme had to say was interesting. I could now give a very competent lesson to a class of ten-year-olds on the history of Mediterranean shipbuilding techniques and I would make sure they followed the example of the American Institute of Nautical Archaeology and made scale-models of the work of those brilliant early sculptors in wood.

Michael Church

● *The Portage to San Cristobal of A.H.* opens at the Mermaid Theatre on February 17. It was incorrectly stated in our recent interview with John Dexter, the play's director, that the original novel by George Steiner is unavailable in Israel. It is on sale there.

Paperbacks

Forster's passage to Egypt at last

Alexandria, by E. M. Forster (Michael Haag, £5.95, hardback £8.95)

Over the centuries certain water cities become liquid history. Beloved Venice is one. London on Thames is another. Alexandria is twice as old as either of them, the prototype cosmopolis, haunting and haunted open city for writers in exile from Theocritus to Larry Durrell.

This book has a curious history. Forster wrote it while he was stationed in Alex as a Red Cross volunteer during the first war, and during a hiatus in writing *A Passage to India*. He set out to marshal the activities of Alexandria during the 23 centuries of her existence after the fashion of a *son et lumière* pageant. His short history and guide brings back to life the immense ghost city that lies behind the shabby little Mediterranean port, re-peopling it with its extra-ordinary procession of personages from all over the old worlds who have found a sort of home in Alexandria. By the accidents and incompetence of the publishing trade, his book is published now, 65 years after it was written, for the first time in Britain by a new travel imprint.

The history in the first half is a model of popularization without elitist talking down. It gives Forster a chance to parade his contempt for the Christian and the theological, and his love for the Hellenistic and the humanistic. He is particularly sharp about the Alexandrian mystics. A couple of pages on Plotinus show the same creative insight into mystical thought that you find in *A Passage to India*.

The second part arranges tours of points of interest in an attractive and efficient way, though Forster himself said rightly that the best way to see a city is to walk about quite aimlessly. The guide is out of date. The foreigners and metics of Alexandria have gone. The cafes retain their immortal names (Pastroudis, Baudrot...), but are dead. The great harbour is a mere cemetery. Cavafy's books and furniture have been housed in a little museum at the top of the Greek Consulate. But Alexandria lives, even for armchair travellers of the imagination, in a book like this. Ibn Dukmak got it right: "If a man make a pilgrimage round Alexandria in the morning, God will make for him a golden crown, set with pearls, perfumed with musk and camphor, and shining from the East to the West."

Philip Howard

Aspects of Alice, Lewis Carroll's Dreamchild as seen through the Critics' Looking-Glasses 1865-1971, edited by Robert Phillips (Penguin, £2.95)

To Robert Graves, Alice is "that prime mover of our nation." This personal collection gathers the most interesting interpretations of her trips to Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass, trips which have invited comparison with Wordsworth, Henry James and T. S. Eliot, and provoked a wealth of different responses. Many are as pedantic as the stiff and priggish mathematician, Charles Dodgson; many, including essays by Auden, Woolf and Priestley, as diverting as the tales he told extempore to the Dean of Christ Church's daughter.

The trouble with most of them is that, being too specialist for works pertaining directly to childhood experience, they are shaped on the Nonsense principles of that world. It is as if Humpty Dumpty and the Caterpillar have reverted to the dyspeptic dons on which they are modelled, able not only to explain all the poems that were ever invented but a good many that have not been.

Dodgson said of *Alice in Wonderland* that "the why of this book cannot, and need not, be put into words". He would, I imagine, turn in his rabbit-hole to discover himself the victim of an unresolved Oedipal fixation, who wrote stories under the influence of LSD about a girl who is the symbolic equation for the phallus and whose adventures are determined by his own desire for "complete virility". In fact, as one critic contends, he would have left the writing of them to Mark Twain.

As Alice says, "it's really dreadful the way all the creatures argue. It's enough to drive me crazy." In the end she is sharper and wittier than the majority of her critics, and if she disappears under their mass of psychobabble at least, like the Cheshire Cat, she leaves her grin behind.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Life Before Man, by Margaret Atwood (Virago Modern Classics, £2.95)

There is a good passage in Margaret Atwood's *Life Before Man* when Elizabeth, world-weary heroine, sits by her door as neighbouring children, dressed "in the shapes of their own desires or their parents' fears" as Frankenstein or rats pass by to gather their Halloween treats. It is cold. She is bored and full of memories. Batmen and Chinamen come and go. Voices in the street pipe out "Shell out. Shell out. The witches are out".

The scene is unusually lyrical in a long, fragmented novel, made up of alternating chapters seen from the point of view of the three main characters, switching time and tense. *Life Before Man* is a modern saga, the daily life of a bunch of well-educated, middle-class, middle-aged Canadians whose jobs and lives merge — the Royal Ontario Museum and its dinosaurs looms large — who brood on the chain of events that brought them to where they are (nowhere good) and make decisions that invariably lead to greater, rather bloodless muddle. Their lives are seedy, no more so than those of other middle-aged, middle-class, educated people in other countries, but definitely, in the words of Lesje (pronounced "Lashia"), "tacky".

Margaret Atwood is not, ever, a tacky novelist, but an even and highly intelligent writer, though I find her sometimes without humour. She has a fine ear for words and a quick wit for absurdities; and she is very good indeed on the accommodations that go into people's lives, their pacts with memory, the terrible torture they inflict upon each other and the terrible guilt they go through when they think about it.

Caroline Moorehead

Concerts

An exciting new musical seascape

RLPO/Williams

Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool/Radio 3

Edward Cowie lives at Morecambe (where I spent many a boyhood day on the inclement winter shore), and was born in Suffolk just when Britten was composing *Peter Grimes*. His newest composition is, at last, a seascape. It is called Concerto for Orchestra, subtitled "Studies in the Movement of Water", and really it is the overture to a brand-new *Flying Dutchman*.

Howard Williams on Tuesday conducted its first performance by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra in their own hall. It was broadcast live so, *faute de* Aslef, I gladly listened at home. The sound-quality of the broadcast was magnificently vivid and robust, thanks to Radio 3, the orchestral playing masterful and vibrant.

Cowie admits only that he found his musical material at the place in Morecambe where three rivers flow into the Irish Sea. He must have blown up his observations. His concerto makes perfect sense otherwise, if you know the Suffolk coast and the Irish Sea in what we have now to call Cumbria.

We begin in a substantial boat on the beach, the rocks splashed by boisterous waves. The boat moves out, encounters the breeze and the groundswell. The foam breaks playfully against the prow (yes, Debussy, why not?). Then brass erupt with huge breakers that hurl heavy jetsam on to the beach and destroy huts on the shore. The storm sprays the boat, like a fire hose or a tap in full flood, the thunder cracks.

The wind and rain abate ever and anon, only to return. Your clothes, the sails, the lines, the woodwork, all are drenched. Sometimes the rain abates, and perhaps the wind will get you dry *in* time. Sometimes the wind drops, and calm broods benignly over the scene.

There is a hint of cosiness below decks. But always the storm is resumed, the shrouds thwack together, the vessel rolls fearsomely: this is not music for the seasick-prone. At the end the rain has dropped, the wind blows free, the steely skipper has won, and the voyage continues after the music has come to a halt.

What a thrilling piece, even if one interprets the contents otherwise. Like the sea, onshore or afloat, Cowie's music is never quite the same; the next challenge is always a contrast. The inspiration is natural, the effect romantic.

William Mann

Lindsay Quartet

St John's

In terse programme notes Elizabeth Maconchy and John Casken said little about their single-movement quartets on Tuesday, yet both agreed they were dealing not just with ideas but with "characters" changing in various situations. And, though I doubt that the dramatic metaphor is much more useful in definition than the words "sonata form", certainly the personages of Maconchy's eleventh quartet are sharply differentiated and their reactions strongly argued, enough for this performance to recall the work vividly to my mind after a gap of several years since my only other hearing of it.

Casken's quartet will be much tougher to remember. It embodies a profusion of original ideas, caught and surpassed with reckless speed, and, while Casken knows how to score a unison E flat so that it sounds fresh and interesting, he can also set down complex things that make themselves heard as complex. His quartet, playing for 20 minutes, thus stretches attention but never quite evaporates into the wide blue yonder; partly because it always sounds as if it matters, partly because almost nothing in it is stale or easily accomplished. And, just when fascination threatens to wane, the work is brought to its climax with an increasing density of memories of itself, then stifled as it tries to begin for the third time.

Proving that they thrive on challenge, the Lindsay Quartet followed their glowing première of the Casken with a lustrously sung and danced performance of Tippett's first quartet, prefaced by the Adagio opening movement which was dropped in revision and has not been heard for more than 40 years. Undoubtedly the quartet is the better without it, though it would be a shame to lose again a piece so strangely gloomy and convoluted yet recognizably Tippett's and of the Thirties.

Finally the Lindsay set themselves with great gusto to Maconchy's twelfth quartet, another compact expression of the strength and orderliness this composer happily finds in the medium.

Paul Griffiths

Theatre

Our Betters

Playhouse, Nottingham

With a title like that, contempt goes without saying, and the main interest of Somerset Maugham's 1915 comedy lies in observing which of his title-hunting American heiresses and fortune-hunting British aristos earn a degree of grudging respect.

In *The Summing Up* Maugham likened his plays of this period to those of the Restoration, which goes to confirm my view that playwrights are seldom to be trusted as guides to their own work. If, as he advised, you look at *Our Betters* as a conversation piece, you can only be struck by the banality of the conversation. The occasional phrase leaps out — "She has been my best friend for years . . . she has not one redeeming feature" — but for the most part the early scenes are a desert of feeble banter at the expense of the characters. An American innocent finds herself in the den of the Anglo-American aristocracy, and there is as little interest in the question of whether young Bessie will succumb to an English milord as in the exposure of the bored, querulous ladies who have made it into Debrett from Middle Western hardware businesses.

The comedy comes to life precisely where it abandons conversation for action in the second act. The company are in the midst of a country house party when *their* hostess, Pearl, is discovered in amorous dalliance with her best *friend's gigolo. Not* much of a situation, you may think; but from it there develops one of Maugham's highly-charged double developments, one public and one personal.

The public story shows virtue triumphing through Bessie's decision to renounce London's fatal glamour and go home. The personal story is worked out through two sets of relationships, both showing the power of uncaring people over those who love them. You cannot say that the play presents them sympathetically; it does say that if you want to survive and *get* on in the world this is the way to do it.

The most interesting feature of Richard Digby Day's revival is the gradual emergence of Barbara Jefford's Pearl as the most commanding figure on stage. To begin with there is nothing much to distinguish her from Phyllis Calvert's gigolo-fancying Dooshesse, Muriel Barker's charity-fixated Princess, and her other vacant-minded cronies. After the miniature scandal, Maugham gives her a fine scene in which she woos back the members of her outraged party. It is no small scandal to her: her profession as a society hostess depends on it. And Miss Jefford rises to the challenge in a series of contrasted seductions winding up with the clear-sighted acknowledgement that the English only tolerate her because they love getting free entertainment.

Visually, the most arresting feature of the show is the decline of Miss Calvert into a pathetic figure in a French revolutionary hat clasping a dancing master in a lumbering tango: an image that evokes Pope's Witches' Sabbath, "A youth of frolics, an old age of cards". There are also well-focused satellite performances from Peter Laird as the complete Anglo-American snob, Julian Jones as the petulant gigolo, reserving his few smiles for the promise of the next ruinously expensive present, and Richard Mayes as Pearl's booming sugar daddy.

Trevor Pitt's sets are not quite to Maugham's demand for Bakst-like splendour, but his costumes are stunning.

Irving Wardle



Julian Jones, Barbara Jefford: gigolo and commanding hostess in "Our Betters"

Pepe

ICA

If the success of the present International London Mime Festival can be measured by audiences, then it is clearly a fine success. Not all the venues have been prepared for the demand: the Shaw Theatre stopped taking telephone bookings for the splendid clown Dimitri apparently because people wanted to make bookings, no doubt a surprise to the box office staff. At the ICA the crowning performance from the Czech clown Boleslav Polivka is considerably better organized and it will be just as difficult to get a ticket.

Mr Polivka's show, named after a chicken who holds clucking conversations with the clown, has achieved great advance popularity. Like many of the performers in the festival, he escapes the old image of white-faced romantic longing and endless flights of invisible stairs by interjecting speech and demonstrating skills that are more circus than esoteric, more popular than elite.

He has a particular skill that would be hard to match, and it has nothing to do with his apparently lax command of juggling and other physical achievements. He tells the story of a tramp who appears with a guitar and a chicken as his only friends, who then meets a child in a pram. He coaxes comical wailing responses from the unseen infant and finally makes contact when a childish hand reaches out to light his cigarette. His own dishevelled appearance is in rich contrast to the neatly turned-out child, but in the course of 80 minutes he and the child establish bonds of affection that are tangibly represented by entertaining action.

His talent is to lead a child, either Damian Weber or Loic Jacquot-Guillarmod, through the entire performance by his own clowning so that the child seems to live his moments on stage. Society at large, or something more threatening, is represented by searchlights and amplified noises, and the relationship is destroyed when the child dies through what is probably unfounded trust in life. It is inventive and entertaining, with gas masks that serve as musical instruments and portable showers, and an astringent sense of humour that survives.

Ned Chaillet

Henze première

The London première of Henze's Double Concerto for oboe, harp and strings is to be given in the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Sunday by David Thomas and Clifford Lantaff with the YMSO Chamber Orchestra conducted by James Blair. The soloists, both former members of the YMSO, are respectively co-principal oboe in the BBC Symphony Orchestra and harpist of the South German Radio Orchestra. The work was written in 1966 for the oboist Heinz Holliger and his harpist wife Ursula.

Jazz

Flip Phillips

The Canteen

The first days of his season at Covent Garden's newest jazz bar have already proved Flip Phillips to be a far subtler tenor saxophonist than his reputation — which for most listeners rests on his membership of the Woody Herman band in the middle 1940s and his subsequent appearances with Jazz at the Philharmonic troupe — would suggest.

With Jazz at the Phil, Phillips's party piece was an extended solo on "Perdido" rivalling Illinois Jacquet for crowd-pleasing scream-'n'-holler freneticism. Little of this is evident at the Canteen, where he reveals himself in his natural state as a soloist of considerable ingenuity.

Accompanied by Eddie Thompson (piano), Harvey Weston (bass) and Ronnie Verrell (drums), he delivers Swing Era stompers by the yard, but turns them into platforms for thoughtful, concise improvisations which bear comparison with late Lester Young in their glancing, epigrammatic quality and in their flow across the chorus lines. His tone is not large, but has a sculptured quality containing the merest hint of febrility; it was heard to best effect on a perfectly flighted reading of "Embraceable You", wherein densely detailed runs were stitched together with perfect logic (and, on one occasion, with a simply enormous scooped note à la Johnny Hodges).

Even the flag-wavers bear evidence of meticulous care: the exchanges of four-bar phrases and Weston's neatly deployed bass breaks turn the most apparently casual number into a piece of firmly founded architecture.

Richard Williams

It is not simply 'another Vietnam' but there are worrying parallels

Can Reagan salvage El Salvador?

El Salvador has been in the front of the news this week, with the decision of the Reagan administration to ship $55m in emergency military equipment and the prospect that it will ask Congress for a further increase in military and economic aid.

To send this aid, President Reagan had to certify that the Salvadorean regime was improving its human rights record; he has been challenged in Congress on this, and on his policy towards El Salvador in general.

Until only a few years ago El Salvador was a little reported backwater, known if at all for its exports of coffee and its repressive military governments. Like the other small countries that are strung along the Central American isthmus, it had a reputation for violence, matching the volcanoes that cover the region, but what happened there was not felt to matter a great deal to the rest of the world.

Now, however, events have thrust the country into the headlines, to the point that it is being asked whether it is becoming a "second Vietnam". The implication is that the United States is again involving itself in guerrilla war in a tropical country which will damage its standing abroad and cause dissension at home.

There are obvious differences from Vietnam. For one thing, no American combat troops are engaged in El Salvador; and it seems unlikely given the outcry it would cause, that Washington would follow the path taken in Vietnam and expand the handful of advisers now with the Salvadorean army to a fighting force.

But there are worrying parallels. The principal one is that the United States, in the cause of anti-communism and in ignorance of local circumstances, is again committing itself to a repressive regime with only a tenuous hold on the country. This provides abundant propaganda material for America's critics abroad — balancing criticism of the Soviet Union over Afghanistan and Poland — and there is the danger that in the end the effort may prove to be futile.

There is also another significant difference from Vietnam. Whereas South-east Asia is far from the United States and from areas of vital interest to it, Central America is on its doorstep. That means that the policy choices are that much more critical.

El Salvador has to be seen, in fact, not so much for its own sake as for its place in the broader context of Central America and the Caribbean. It is one of a number of small countries which have been under strong American influence for many years and which have often had repressive governments, determined to resist social change.

That was the case of Cuba until 1959; and the revolution there, followed by Castro's alignment with the Soviet Union, came as a shock to the United States. It was seen, not so much as the reaction of a small country which was resentful of domination by an overwhelmingly powerful neighbour, but as an intrusion of Soviet influence into the Americas.

The American policy of simply backing the Salvadorean regime and refusing to envisage negotiations between the regime and the opposition is clearly inadequate

Cuba was followed 20 years later by Nicaragua. President Anastasio Somoza, the last of a dynasty which had ruled the country for more than 40 years and which had always had close relations with Washington, was overthrown by the Sandinistas and their allies. The new regime there proclaimed its intention of maintaining a mixed economy and political pluralism, but there was no doubt of the cordial relations it had with Havana, and that was what set alarm bells ringing in Washington.

The fear was, and is, that Nicaragua would prove to be only the first of a new row of dominoes. Next in line would be El Salvador, to be followed by Guatemala and possibly Honduras. In other words, a block of small leftist regimes would be created, all of them linked to Cuba.

To the south, they could present a threat to Panama and its canal. To the north, they might even cause instability in Mexico, a giant compared to any of them, but one with feet of clay because of its own social inequalities. And the tiny islands of the Caribbean could also be at risk, as was shown by Grenada's alignment with Cuba.

A decision was taken, therefore, to draw the line in El Salvador. The decision was taken by the Carter administration, which had seen the Somoza regime in Nicaragua collapse in a surprisingly short time. It was upheld and publicized by the Reagan administration, with its particular sensitivity to anything that looked like a challenge from Cuba or the Soviet Union.

The trouble is that the plans made in 1979 have not worked out. A few months after the Nicaraguan revolution, there was a military coup in El Salvador in which a group of younger officers came to power. They outlined a series of reforms they brought in civilian politicians, some of them left of centre, and they appeared perfectly to meet Washington's prescription of a moderate regime which would take the steam out of pressures from the extreme left.

They were opposed from the start, however, by the extreme left; and they proved incapable of controlling the armed forces, which stepped up their repression, committing atrocities against people only suspected of sympathy with the guerrillas. The result is that, instead of calm and reform, the country is now being torn apart by a virtual civil war.

President Duarte is a Christian Democrat with good democratic credentials. His government has begun to carry out some reforms — the redistribution of land, for instance.

But this same Salvadorean regime is responsible for a chilling series of atrocities. And it has been unable to defeat the guerrillas, who control parts of the country and have begun to show good public relations sense in admitting reporters to their camps.

It is understandable that the Americans should be concerned about developments in Central America. There is a strong Marxist element in the regime in Nicaragua; and so there is among the guerrillas in El Salvador, though they are more divided than the Nicaraguan Sandinistas. There is room for doubt about how much Cuba is actually helping the guerrillas, but there can be no doubt about its sympathy with their aims.

But the American policy of simply backing the Salvadorean regime and refusing to envisage negotiations between the regime and the opposition is clearly inadequate. The notion that the regime's standing will be enhanced by the elections due next month is misguided because it would be impossible to hold fair elections in present circumstances. And there is little sympathy for American policies, either in Latin America or western Europe.

The solution can only be by bringing what leverage Washington has — and in the case of El Salvador it is considerable — to moderate the policies of repression, and by working for an accommodation between the regime and its critics. It will not be easy or quick, and the outcome may not be quite what the United States would have chosen. But the time is past when Washington can dictate what happens there, and it has to adapt to changed circumstances.

Peter Strafford



Troops trained by American advisers occupy a Salvadorean village: is the United States committing itself again?

How the railways can survive

by Richard Hope

Editor of Railway Gazette

As London's commuters struggle to work by bus, tube, car or bicycle for the eighth time, the rest of Britain must be baffled by all the fuss; most people would as soon think of going to work by balloon as catching a train. As for industry, only coal and steel are feeling the pinch. With under-used lorries moving swiftly to fill the gap, the main problem is higher costs.

Nursed on a diet of pro-rail propaganda from his employer and union, the average railwayman perceives Britain's 11,000 miles of steel tracks as veins through which the nation's life-blood flows.

The truth is very different. Rail's 7 per cent share of passenger kilometres is swamped by private cars moving 10 times as much traffic, while freight has sagged to only 16 per cent of tonne-kilometres hauled by road and rail. Even these sorry statistics conceal the full extent of rail's retreat. In terms of what the customer is prepared to pay for his transport, the railways now collect less than 4 per cent of the £17,000m a year spent on moving freight. Small wonder that a CBI spokesman dismissed the current dispute as a "non-event".

In the year ending March 31, 1982, *British Rail will cost* the taxpayer £1,000m, for the £920m external finance limit set by the Government will certainly be breached. This is 40 per cent of turnover — a better result than most European railways achieve — but cash limits have only been met in the past five years by deferring maintenance and renewals.

Before such matters as electrification can be tackled, 800 miles of track overdue for replacement must be attended to. Indeed, it is reckoned that 3,000 miles of track will be closed as unsafe by 1990 if spending continues at current levels.

It is no secret that some members of the Government are fed up with what Whitehall calls the "Railway Problem". If the idea of paving over tracks to make roads is dismissed as simplistic — Britain has already closed 13,000 miles of railway, of which less than 100 miles have actually been exploited in this way — those who advocate a Final Solution get a sympathetic hearing.

Yet our railways do not lack supporters. In October 1972 the disclosure in *The Sunday Times* of plans to close up to half the post-Beeching network caused a storm within the Conservative Party. Until the present Secretary of State for Transport, David Howell, replaced Norman Fowler in last autumn's Cabinet reshuffle, no passenger railway of consequence had been approved for closure in nine years.

Mr Howell quickly approved closures of two lines in Scotland, but he confirmed to me this week (if with rather less vehemence than Mr Fowler) the Government's desire to avoid "substantial" cuts in BR's network.

Most governments value the contribution rail can make to saving energy and oil through electrification, reducing injury and congestion on the roads and so forth — but none of these laudable objectives is achieved by a railway which consistently carries less freight in every year that passes. Significantly, Britain is now the only major country in the world moving less freight by rail than at any time in this century.

Mr Howell admits to Treasury reluctance to put more public money into BR, but insists that even those of his Cabinet colleagues less-favourably disposed towards BR have been impressed by the manpower reduction achieved last year.

When the strike is over, there is to be a thorough review of BR's finances. A new business plan has already been prepared showing how Inter-city trains can be run at a profit, and Mr Howell's intention is to support rural and commuter lines at a level that will allow them to be properly maintained — once he is satisfied that they are being operated in the most economical way.

Mr Howell "would like to see more investment in rail", though the extra cash must be generated internally, or from the private sector. This sounds fine, but the 1982-83 cash limit is £950m — only 3 per cent more than 1981-82, despite 12 per cent inflation. Unless this limit is eased, rail investment will virtually cease.

If there were no medium-term prospect of cutting BR's costs or raising revenue, the outlook would be bleak. Cash limits at the present level could only be achieved by dramatic action like closing the railway down completely at weekends. This would drop BR into a black hole of dwindling services and revenue that could have only one logical end: disintegration of the national rail network into a tatty service for commuters into London and a few isolated lines *connecting coal mines with* power stations.

If the board gets its productivity package, however, and draws Aslef's fangs in the process, there is one area where the extra cash needed for electrification and other investment might be found.

The great opportunity lies in freight. Paradoxically, it is BR's dismal market share that points the way, because it provides generous scope for growth if the competitive balance with road can be tipped the right way.

It is mainly the archaic rules governing rostering that hamstring the freight business today. With footplate staff averaging 4,000 miles a year on freight duties, and a redundant guard as well, it costs £2.50 in wages to the crew each time a freight train moves one mile! Worse still use of locos and wagons is sacrificed on the altar of economic crew rostering.

At the heart of the current dispute with the train drivers lies this thorny problem of excessive crew costs which is destroying BR's freight business. Flexible rostering is just the start.

Research shows that 40 to 50 million tons of freight *moving over 200 miles* could be won from the road, given the doubling of train crew productivity that is clearly possible. What matching gain can the road haulier look forward to, apart from the 40-tonne lorry?

While this would only increase rail tonnage by a third, it would double freight revenue from £600m to £1,200m a year, quite enough to justify main line electrification. Given a Channel tunnel, the total could be even higher.

The big question is not whether rail has the technical capacity to compete with road for what is, after all, still a small segment of the total market. The doubt that remains is whether, even now, the train drivers' conviction that the world owes them a living remains unshaken. If so, 50,000 railwaymen could join the dole queues before the next election.

Road and rail freight in 1980

ROAD 84% — RAIL 16%
TOTAL FREIGHT MOVED 113 billion tonne-km

ROAD 96% — RAIL 4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURE BY USERS £17.3 billion

Source: Transport Statistics Great Britain 1970-1980

Ronald Butt

Democratic but hardly socialist

The other night Mr Roy Hattersley and Mr William Rodgers debated on television under the beady and judicial eye of Sir Robin Day. Mr Hattersley had assumed his inquisitorial mien. The atmosphere was thick with forensic accusation. Mr Rodgers had been injudicious enough to declare that a classless society was fundamental for the Social Democrats.

Mr Hattersley pounced. "Now, do you believe in a classless society that has a two-tier education system with some people buying superior education and some people having to suffer whatever the local authorities can afford . . ."?

Mr Rodgers said he believed that in a classless society people should have a high degree of freedom to choose how they want to spend their money. Many working class parents believed they should spend a *little* (the word was accentuated with such force that Mr Rodgers seemed in some danger of coming apart at the political seams) of their money, not on beer and cigarettes but on their children's education — perhaps paying for extra teaching in the evening. He did not think he should deny them or anyone else that right.

Having thus triumphantly shrugged aside the little matter of the fees of Eton, Manchester Grammar and Dulwich as of apparently negligible significance compared with the right to use the beer money for extra maths, Mr Rodgers reasonably enough expressed his fear that Labour's kind of equality would deny the freedom of choice that "most people desperately want".

So Mr Rodgers did believe in a two-tier system! Metaphorically, Mr Hattersley rested his case. It is a subject on which he feels deeply. His wife is the headmistress of a progressive comprehensive school, and Mr Hattersley jealously guards his claim that his pronouncements of the right kind of educational system have the force of moral conviction untouched by politics.

In fact, after I had written something long ago, suggesting that Mr Hattersley's demand for the abolition of independent schools was not unconnected with the political wind then blowing hard from the left, he was very cross when we subsequently met at a Labour Conference. He thought I had cast doubt on his sense of conviction.


Mr Rodgers (left) and Mr Hattersley: at odds over class and classroom.

Perhaps I had, but only because I could not think of any other rational explanation why a basically moderate man should propose so illiberal an act. In a way, it was a kind of compliment. My colleague, the late James Margach proceeded in his avuncular way to pour a little oil and asked Mr Hattersley to join us for dinner.

There was a moment's pause. Mr Hattersley is a kindly man and may have been tempted to make it up (which I am glad to say we since have) on the spot. Or he may simply have been feeling hungry. Then he gave his verdict. "No", he declared, "I will not eat with Ronald Butt".

Well, how much more can you give up for your moral principles than that? Mr Hattersley had provided proof enough even for this Doubting Thomas. We know where he stands and that his conscience dictates. He wishes to abolish, somehow or other, all independent schools, though we do not know precisely where he and his party stand on paying for extra maths with the beer money.

So we understand Mr Hattersley's and his party's sociological position on such matters. But what about Mr Rodgers and the SDP?

I have previously suggested that the Social Democrats, to carve a permanent place for themselves in the political spectrum, need principally to channel to themselves the votes of the old Labour Party. But they hope also to gain a controlling position in the next Parliament with the help of the Tory panic vote which supports the SDP to keep out the Labour left. With proportional representation, they then hope to become the permanent element in a series of perpetual centrist coalitions.

That is why, challenged by Mr Hattersley to say whether he regarded the SDP as recreating the old Labour Party, Mr Rodgers said no, it was "quite a new party" whose best recruits were "caring" people of no previous ideological commitment to the older parties.

So we have the odd situation in which a substantial group of ex-Labour politicians, who would never have left that party if it had adhered to their kind of socialism, have formed a new party largely supported by activists who are middle-class and in revolt against the old politics. It is a party led by professional politicians rapidly being driven to a position which implicitly denies the "socialist" element in social democracy.

As far as the mass of Labour voters is concerned this is probably no great disadvantage. Socialism was never Labour's principal attraction to its working-class voters. They supported it because they believe it looked after their class interest, redistributed income to their advantage, provided welfare and upheld the trade unions. They never felt strongly about such matters as abolishing public schools, private medicine or about nationalization.

But the socialism at the heart of the SDP politicians will not die so easily — particularly their instinct for controls and social engineering. Mr Roy Jenkins himself is by now pretty free from such ideas. Mr Rodgers may be moving the same way. That can hardly be said of Mrs Williams (who has had to swallow her ideas on education) or even Dr Owen.

Theirs may not be pure enough socialism for the disillusioned SDP officials who wrote in complaint to *The Times* the other day. But there is enough of it left in the hearts of the old Labour politicians who are the core of the new party to create some real strains.

Their political roots were established in the days of Gaitskellite-Crosland egalitarianism, when the aim was a "classless society" (actually a very middle-class concept) achieved not by further redistribution but by growth planning and social engineering. But alas, there is little growth (in the 1950s sense) in prospect and painless social democracy is now in retreat all over Europe. Even in Germany the SPD is set to go to the left after Schmidt and when the alliance with the Free Democrats breaks. In a way, the British Social Democrats look like a party trying to sign the Bad Godesberg declaration 25 years too late.

The SDP needs the old Labour vote, but does that vote need Mrs Williams's kind of egalitarianism? Times have changed. Leaving aside the unsettled questions of Nato and defence, it could be argued that the developing consensus at the top of the Labour Party in Parliament is not all that far from representing the modern face of Gaitskellism — not least in its attitude to Europe. Everything depends on whether they can beat off the left-wing challenge which threatens parliamentary responsibility.

As for the new party, the real question is not whether they can be social democrats in the old European sense, but whether they can create a national constituency much nearer to that of the Democrats across the Atlantic.

It is at least a question of whether the new party's present leaders, given their emotional origins, and their obsession with class equality (what precisely does it mean?) can achieve this. Listening to Mr Rodgers, one felt far from sure — which must have been quite a comfort for Mr Hattersley.

THE TIMES DIARY

Other columns speculate. This one informs. (There goes a hostage to fortune if ever there were one, which will doubtless fetch a friendly flurry of brickbats the next time PHS speculates unprofitably.) The next editor of The Tablet, *the remarkable Roman Catholic periodical which counts Graham Greene among its contributors, is to be John Wilkins. The vacancy arising on the retirement of Tom Burns, the present editor, aroused special interest because* The Tablet *has had only eight editors in 142 years.*

Wilkins was formerly assistant editor of the paper for five years from 1967, when Burns took over from the 30-year tenure of his predecessor, Douglas Woodruff. He has since been working for the BBC's foreign staff. Burns, who continues as non-executive chairman of the board, took no part in the choice but wholeheartedly approves it. It will, he says, reassure readers that care has been taken to ensure continuity in the paper's proud record of intellectual independence.

Lord Carver takes up his pen for peace

Field Marshal Lord Carver, the former Chief of the Defence Staff, is writing a book about peace. He has been commissioned by Matthew Evans, chairman and managing director of Faber, who is, though Carver may not know it, a unilateralist and veteran of the Aldermaston marches.

Evans heard Carver in radio discussion, arguing, with trenchant Wykehamist rationalism, the irresponsibility and illogicality of contemplating limited nuclear war. Evans wrote a letter inviting the book and within two days had a phone call confirming a delivery date — April 1.

The two have yet to meet, but already Evans seems a little overawed by the tall, lean soldier with a reputation for laying waste sacred cattle. "He sounds pretty formidable", Evans confided.

Carver says the book he is writing is tentatively entitled *A Policy for Peace* and briskly deploys his arguments. "Nuclear war cannot be considered as an effective continuation of any reasonable policy", he says. "The situation has changed since it was concievably, and perhaps misguidedly possible to think of war as a reasonable extension of state policy. It would be extremely imprudent to assume that if nuclear war starts it will be possible to keep it limited.

"I am totally against the abolition of nuclear weapons, which would be putting the clock back to a time when it was still possible to think war reasonable. Nuclear weapons do only two things: stop the great powers fighting each other, and if that — by any misfortune — fails, stop them using nuclear weapons."

Unilateralist Matthew Evans may now ponder whether he heard Lord Carver on the radio, or misheard him.

Warm Alliance

Humphry Berkeley, leading contender for a record in politcal uncertainty, will be fighting under his third party banner in May. He has just been chosed as SDP candidate for the Chiswick ward of Hounslow borough council. Berkeley was formerly Conservative MP for Lancaster, and then Labour candidate for North Fylde.

Berkely's running partner on the Alliance ticket will be Liberal Joy Skinner. Their alliance is more warm and close than can be said of SDP-Liberal relationships in the country at large. Berkeley is already godfather to her eldest son.

Fouling the nest

It is good news that we can now buy cheaper cars abroad without having to collect them personally, and better still that David Howell says Britain is not in the business of erecting artificial barriers to trade.

Perhaps this means that we may expect a prompt end to the restriction on imports of UHT milk from other EEC countries. Ministry officials explain, with a mean twinkle in their eyes, that it is all done purely on health grounds, but fail to explain why, if this is so, imports of UHT cream and dairy ice cream are not similarly banned.

A cynic would say it had something to do with maintaining the exceptionally high level of liquid milk prices in Britain, and PHS is, of course, a professional cynic.

Equally neither PHS nor anyone else can actually prove that the Ministry of Agriculture's ban on Commercial importation of poultry and poultry products is related to the threat of a turkey processing plant in Normandy big enough to supply the whole British market, and the low price of eggs in France, rather than fowl pest. Yet it is a fact that every day-tripper returning on the ferries can now bring back one kilogram of any fresh meat, which must leave our supposed defences against fowl pest pretty tattered.

Unsung heroine

One of the most remarkable and unsung women of her generation, Irene Clephane, close friend of Sir Denis Brogan, the historian, is to be cremated in Islington on Monday. She died last Friday at her north London home in her 87th year, having been a forerunner of the women's liberation movement. An author and a journalist she was fluent in French, German and Dutch and in her later years helped Norman St John-Stevas index his *magnum opus*, the works of Walter Bagehot. A friend described her as "the ideal backroom research worker and general factotum"

And so to b & b

We are, it seems, good in bed and better at breakfast. Sigourney Welles, who has just completed 18 months' bed and breakfasting in Britain and beyond, is so content with what she found that she is convinced we offer "the best bed and breakfast in the world", and has made that the grandiloquent title of her newly published guide book on the subject.

Admittedly she interlarded her round of egg-and-bacon platters with visits to country houses and historic hotels, to which she was preparing another guide simultaneously. They are, she insists, two completely different worlds, and she would not say which she preferred beyond volunteering that "bed and breakfast is pure fun".

ACAS here. No, ASLEF haven't turned up; but the SDP are on their way

She got the idea for the b & b book when she wanted to tour Britain after years in America. She advertised in newspapers around the world asking for recommendations, and was inundated with replies from nostalgic holidaymakers who thought our landladies were wonderful. Then she and an assistant took to the road to see for themselves, sleeping in 800 beds and downing 800 hearty breakfasts. "You never know what you are going to get — Jacobean manor, timbered cottage or ancient vicarage. Some of the houses are architectural gems, but too big for the owners who welcome you with open arms." Last tip for indigent travellers — best value of all is in Eire.

Diplomatic tips

The new Israeli ambassador-designate to Washington, Moshe Arens, who takes up his post next week, received some public advice from four of his predecessors at a dinner in Tel Aviv.

The host, Samuel Lewis, the American ambassador to Israel, set the tone by offering Arens a farewell gift — a bowl of asprin. The former ambassador to Washington, Eliahou Eilath (1953-57), advised Arens to leave embassy work to aides and to appeal directly to the American people. Abe Hartmann (1957-61) offered the tip of thermal underwear for presidential inaugurations, always held outdoors in freezing weather, while Simkha Dinitz (1972-78) recommended paying always by credit card because people who pay cash are suspect.

The former Labour Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, ambassador from 1968 to 1972, warned Arens never to propose anything to the Americans — who would *know* where to find *him* if they needed him.

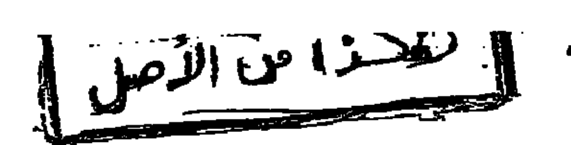
Small World

In an impressive display of solidarity with their summarily dismissed editor, Dr Michael O'Donnell, the salaried writers of *World Medicine* and 13 regular contributors, have announced their resignations. The acting editor, Mark Allen, drafted by the owners, IPC, from *Nursing Mirror*, is left with one trainee reporter, until recently the editor's secretary, and hastily gathered freelances.

Those abandoning ship include Professor Bryan Brooke, consultant editor and emeritus professor of surgery at the University of London; Jeremy Laurance, the features editor; Tim Albert, executive editor; Katharine Whitehorn and Derek Cooper of *The Observer*; Dr David Delvin; Dr Bernard Dixon, former editor of *New Scientist*; and the political correspondent, Hugh Macpherson.

O'Donnell has hopes of reviving the magazine's old spirit elsewhere. When IPC became sole owners, the staff were told they would be moving to Sutton, Surrey, and he was given one afternoon to get out. He has since had an attack of shingles — which hardly seems surprising, though that is not a professional opinion.

PHS



TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

LAST CHANCE BEFORE SHUT-DOWN

Aslef considers its case good enough to hobble the railways for a month on end, but apparently not good enough to stand up to inquiry even by as sympathetic an observer as Lord McCarthy. Rather than state its case, the union has responded to the invitation by rearranging its days of stoppage so as to cause greater disruption of services and greater loss to its already debt-ridden employer, without incurring any further loss of earnings for its members. The fact that Aslef's implied assessment of the weakness of its case is accurate is no comfort to those who see the railway system in its present form threatened with destruction by the self-righteous cussedness of a doomed craft union in defence of a doomed restrictive practice.

The inquiry which started yesterday is not binding: Aslef had already refused binding arbitration. Lord McCarthy's record as chairman of the Rail Staff National Tribunal has been marked by a distinctly relaxed view of the urgency of improving productivity. The terms of reference drawn up by Acas mention last August's agreement on productivity as well as the one on pay, but they do not oblige the committee to accept BR's view that the latter is conditional on the former. But for Aslef even the mention is too much.

It is easy to envisage what chance there would be of improving rail efficiency in future years if a strike pursued in this spirit was allowed to succeed. The two larger rail unions would see what an obstinate tenth of the workforce could do, and draw their own conclusions. The cost of an incurably overmanned service would enforce harsher economies and service cuts eventually. There can be no giving way on the central issue of flexible rostering.

Aslef had effectively isolated itself by its refusal: even Mr Len Murray has been moved to mild protest. But that does not make the dispute any less difficult for BR to fight in financial terms. Business is down by fifty and even eighty per cent in some sectors, but the board goes on paying most of its staff at least at basic rates, and paying the drivers themselves for four days of each week. The case for limiting these losses as far as possible grows stronger every day. As the borrowed funds run short it becomes harder to justify their going on pay for days when no trains run, and to justify stretching out the agony by trying to provide incomplete services on the odd days that Aslef permits.

It would be wrong for BR to make any move while Lord McCarthy's committee is sitting. It is expected to report early next week. Or, it now appears, the committee may abandon its task if Aslef persists in its refusal to attend. The report, if there is one, is not a foregone conclusion: if the committee finds that flexible rostering is optional, the board should rely on its own commercial judgment that it is essential. If an acceptable formula for reconciling Aslef to the change is proposed, it should be put immediately to the union. If they reject it, or if the inquiry is aborted, then the board should suspend the agreement of the footplatemen's guaranteed working week at once and stop paying them until they are prepared to work normally. How long railwaymen belonging to the other unions should be paid their guaranteed wage is a matter for the financial and political judgment of the board. In any case the money to pay those wages would soon run out. It would then be for the Government to ensure that no more funds would be available to the railway until operations could be resumed on the basis of progressive labour productivity.

PALESTINIAN AUTONOMY

The Israeli proposals for Palestinian autonomy published this week do not hold out any hope of progress towards the solution of the Palestinian problem. Although Israeli spokesmen have worked hard to present Israel's offer as a very generous one, suggesting for instance that "eighty per cent of governmental powers" will be exercised by the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza, or that "what we are offering is equivalent to the United States cabinet without Haig and Weinberger", it is clear that such statements are meaningless in the context of the actual situation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

This situation is dominated by two factors. One is the continuing process of Israeli settlement. The other is the aspiration of the Arab inhabitants for independence. The first renders any proposal for autonomy meaningless so long as it is "personal" rather than "territorial". The Palestinians will not actually be in control of their own affairs so long as they have no control over the Israeli settlers living in their midst. The settlements do not exist in a vacuum. They impinge constantly on the daily life of the Arab inhabitants, as even Mr Mustafa Dodin, leader of the Israeli-backed "Village League" in the Hebron area, bitterly complains.

The second point — the aspiration for Palestinian independence means that no form of autonomy will cut any ice politically unless it holds out at least the hope of progress towards independence. What form independence would take is debatable. Many Palestinians in the West Bank, and some in Gaza, would hope, and even assume, that a future Palestinian entity would be very closely linked to Jordan — possibly in a federal or confederal arrangement. But they insist that this is a decision for them to take: their right to self-determination must be recognized.

The late President Sadat understood this point clearly. In his famous speech to the Knesset in 1977 he insisted on the right of the Palestinians to form their own state if they so wished, and his hope of selling the Camp David accord to the Palestinians was based on the idea that it provided a transitional solution enabling them to exercise their right of self-determination, by negotiating through elected representatives, within five years.

President Mubarak is sticking to that line. He rightly insists that nothing would be achieved by Egyptian concessions to the Israeli concept of autonomy, since it is not Egypt's signature that will determine the success or failure of any autonomy agreement: it is the willingness of the Palestinian population to believe in such an agreement and to try to make it work. For there to be any chance of that, autonomy would have to mean effective control of the whole area of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, including those land and water resources which are public domain under Ottoman law (though often, by long-established custom, in private use). The Arabs of East Jerusalem, who are unquestionably Palestinians and not Israelis, should also be allowed to take part. Israeli settlement should be frozen at once at its present level, and a processs of dismantling some of the more provocative settlements in sensitive areas should be begun.

The Camp David accord at one point describes the proposed self-governing authority, in paren-thesis, as an "administrative council". The Israelis argue from this that it should be a purely executive body, composed of thirteen functionaries each at the head of a department, without any legislative power. The Egyptians, by contrast, are proposing a legislative body of some eighty members. This would have the advantage both of giving the Palestinians some real power and of encouraging a significant number of them to get involved in political activity by standing for election. Since the Israelis persistently claim that the Palestine Liberation Organization does not really represent the population in the occupied territories, they ought to welcome this chance for an indigenous political leadership to emerge.

The United States should itself come out in support of a proposal along these lines, rather than trying to put equal pressure on Egypt and Israel to "close the gap" between their positions. That approach in the long run acts as a disincentive to concessions by either side, since whatever one concedes becomes simply the new line from which one will be urged to shift. In the present context Egypt is unlikely to yield to such pressure, since further Egyptian concessions on the Palestinian issue would achieve nothing for Egypt but would weaken her chances of recovering her good standing in the Arab world. By contrast serious American pressure on Israel is now essential if the last chance of making Camp David the corner-stone of an overall Middle East peace is not to be lost.

DO NOT MUZZLE THE MESSENGER

Visitors to South Africa are often surprised by the apparent freedom of the press; cartoonists hold up government leaders to scorn and leading articles vigorously criticise points of policy. This freedom has been steadily diminished, but enough remains to be of value. If the recommendations just published by a committee under Mr Justice Marthinus Steyn are made law, even that will be put in doubt.

The Suppression of Communism Act of 1950 was the first of a series of laws giving the government draconian powers over journalists. These were used in the 1960s to kill radical and left-wing journals, most notably the weekly *New Age* (also the *Guardian* and other aliases it assumed while struggling to avoid banning). Since then the fire has been turned on more liberal, non-revolutionary targets; the two most recent victims being Mr Donald Woods, former editor of the *Daily Dispatch* of East London, and Mr Percy Qoboza, former editor of the *World*, both demonstrably non-communist.

The main restrictions on the surviving press come from the law which prevents the words and opinions of "banned" people being reported it all, and in the stern restrictions on reporting of matters concerned with prisons and defence. Affairs of vital concern to the people of South Africa have been ignored by the press because of legal constraints. While some journalists have stood up bravely, the main English-speaking press has been borne down over the years. The change of editorship of the *Rand Daily Mail*, for instance, have indicated a failure of managerial nerve.

The crucial proposal of the Steyn committee is that all journalists should be compulsorily registered on a central roll; a General Council for Journalists could strike off those it found guilty of "improper conduct" and thus prevent them from exercising their profession. The register would apparently extend to foreign journalists whose work was taken by South African newspapers. The council would consist of three government nominees and nine journalists, the means of choosing them giving a weighting to pro-government journalists. The committee said it wished to improve the status of the journalist profession, bringing it into line with medicine and the law. (Interestingly, a similar excuse was given recently in Sierra Leone for an early repressive measure.)

The truth, however, is that journalists do not fit into a mould and cannot be lined up in drill formation. The Nigerian novelist (and brave journalist) Chinua Achebe recently wrote: "Most writers are inveterate critics of their fellow men and of society — a role imposed on them by their multiple vision, their natural scepticism and individualism. . . . When [a writer] gets up to dance with his fellows he is apt to hear in his mind's ear the rhythms of a different drummer. In the words — frightening words — of Joyce Carey, 'he is doomed to be free'."

The Steyn restrictions would put journalists on a leash. More important, a closer confinement of the press must have a damaging effect on South African life. Even the most optimistic predictions for the country foresee difficult but unavoidable adjustments for white South Africans. For that they will need as much information as possible about what is happening, what people think and what options are available. How will they get it without a free press?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Socialism and the social democrats

From the Leader of the Opposition

Sir, I read some months ago the acknowledgement by Roy Jenkins that he had not been accustomed for years to use the word socialism. I read frequently, and most recently in your correspondence columns on Tuesday, that David Owen has removed from the latest edition of his book, *Face the Future*, all references to socialism to be found in the original. I read also that the Social Democrat Party has chosen to call its "think tank" the Tawney Society.

Will the society at its early meetings devote its labours to the removal of the word socialism from the works of Professor Tawney? It would be a formidable task. And it would surely be more tasteful if these new thinkers did not seek, for their own purposes, to debase the name of Tawney.

Some of us can recall how proudly and passionately he pronounced the word socialism, and scorned those who would not understand its true origin, meaning and glory.

Yours fraternally,
MICHAEL FOOT,
House of Commons.
February 3.

Easier mortgages

From Mr John Stewart

Sir, In discussing the new index-linked mortgages offered by the Building Trust (January 29), your Business Editor repeats an age-old mistake on encountering new ideas, a preoccupation with remote and hypothetical problems and misunderstandings that obscure understanding of the idea itself.

1. Building Trust mortgages will enable those whose income disqualifies them from a conventional building society or bank loan to buy their own home. To relinquish some of the equity is certainly a cost. But surely for many households in this position this cost will be far outweighed by the benefits of home ownership.

2. Homebuyers are not "potentially giving away some 50 per cent of any capital gain realized on their home". First, it is not "given away" because in exchange for low monthly repayments now, borrowers pay a proportion of the capital gain later. Thus, deferred debt repayment enables a new market to be opened up. Second, the 50 per cent capital gain is based on the value of the loan, not the full price of the house.

3. Mortages, especially for those on lower incomes, are long-term commitments. Static house prices have only ever been a short-term phenomenon. The fact that in a few, hypothetical cases, lower income first-purchasers might buy and sell a house within one year in the present economic circumstances is more of the order of a crack in the pavement than a "potential pitfall". And besides, the trustees are empowered to consider individual cases of hardship, just as occurs with building society borrowers.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN STEWART,
Housing Economist,
The House-Builders Federation,
82 New Cavendish Street, W1.
January 29.

High flyers

From Mr Michael Geare

Sir, The secretary of the British Microlight Aircraft Association is quoted in today's *Times* article (February 2) as comparing microlight pilots with Icarus. He is right in that both crash. He is wrong in that Icarus *did* not create a uniquely savage, selfish and un-controlled noise pollution. The sensible West Germans would supply Icarus with heat-resistant wax: they have banned noise-pollutant Microlights.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL GEARE,
The Thatched Cottage,
Gagingwell,
Enstone,
Oxfordshire.
February 2.

A mature view

From Lady Sachs

Sir, I note with alarm and despondency in your issue of January 29 that Channel 4 threatens to introduce a special programme for the elderly. Why?

I admit (albeit reluctantly) to being 72, but I will not admit to being in need of any special treatment from the box, and I have always found that, with discrimination, the existing programmes supply everything that any sane adult could possibly require at any age.

I have no doubt that the programmes will be admirably selected and presented and that my vision of endless beautifully-read extracts from books which can be better enjoyed by private reading, cosy knitting patterns and 301 different ways to tart up the bedtime Ovaltine will be totally unfounded. But it does not alter the infuriating impression of being patronised and being incapable of interest in the ordinary programmes just because one happens to be over 60!

It could be that the passage of time can sharpen critical faculties and widen interests and in any case why should we oldies be relegated to the reverse equivalent of *Listen With Mother?*

Yours sincerely,
MARGARET SACHS,
Walland Oast,
Wadhurst,
East Sussex.
January 30.

Ethics of human embryo banks

From Dr R. Snowden and Professor G. D. Mitchell

Sir, Recent publicity (report, January 28) surrounding the activities of Mr Patrick Steptoe and Dr Robert Edwards in freezing embryos for subsequent thawing suggests there is a need for a public debate into the topics of surrogate motherhood, artificial insemination and "test-tube" babies.

Despite the predictable cries from members of the medical profession directly involved that a moratorium on embryo freezing in order to permit public debate of the practice would be "ill informed" and "alarmist", it is gratifying to learn that the profession is attempting to provide "guidelines" in relation to the practice. However, these guidelines are to be produced by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists for their own members and will presumably not be mandatory.

Our objections to the way this matter is being dealt with are threefold.

Firstly, any enquiry should involve a much wider spectrum of society than merely the medical profession and presumably their legal advisers. Our own research into the social, psychological and moral issues surrounding these different forms of human reproduction indicates the need to go far beyond legal or medical consideration.

Secondly, any enquiry must not be confined to the minority cases of *in vitro* fertilization and embryo freezing, but must include the issues of surrogate motherhood and the more common practice of artificial insemination by semen donor (AID).

Thirdly, the mere production of "guidelines" which may give some legal protection to those responsible for providing surrogate motherhood, AID, *in vitro* fertilization and embryo-freezing services, is insufficient. What is needed is some form of licensing (e g, of sperm banks, etc) and registration (e g, of those providing these services).

At the present time there is no control whatsoever in this country in the establishment of sperm banks and the commercialisation of AID, surrogate motherhood and *in vitro* fertilization services. These services, by definition, are directed towards those who are particularly vulnerable in their desire to have a child almost at any price.

After discussions with those who suffer from infertility we have come to appreciate the depth of misery and the feelings of hopelessness experienced by couples who want a child but, for one reason or another, are denied one. The need for regulation is not in order to prevent this group of unfortunate people from receiving the help they need, but to ensure that such help is provided in a way that is compatible with the moral standards of our time and avoids the dangers which accompany secrecy and the lack of regulation.

To take AID as an example, which is the most common of the procedures described, questions relating to the selection of those being provided with the AID service, the donor, the person providing the service and the rights of the child need urgent consideration. How are couples selected? How much are they charged? What effect does AID have on the family relationships? Who selects the donor? How are donors assessed? How often is a donor used? What are the rights of the child whose genetic background is likely to have been deliberately obscured?

It is an assumption that in the case of *in vitro* fertilization the ova and sperm from a married couple are being used and the fertilized ova are being replaced in the wife's body; however, this remains an assumption. But in cases of surrogate motherhood and AID there is confusion between genetic and social parenthood. The creation of a new human being is a serious business and neither research scientists, the medical profession nor the legal profession are solely competent to provide guidelines for the rest of us.

The statement that frozen animal embryos have been successfully thawed out and subsequently developed in goats, pigs, sheep and cows leads us to worry about the future reproductive practices of the human race. A recent report of a *scientific meeting held in 1979* called to discuss the provision of AID services included a paper describing the careful selection and treatment of stud bulls. Apparently, all the cows in this country could be serviced by just 30 such bulls.

At the same meeting one gynaecologist referring to human AID called for the establishment of donor panels of "top sires" whose spermatozoa could be distributed around the country for use by those wishing to provide an AID service. Yet another description in the same report was of a "masturbatorium" situated in Adelaide, South Australia, frequented by donors who provide their donation in conditions of some comfort including the availability of "girlie" magazines.

Had such scientific assistance been available in the 1930s the master race would doubtless have been more than a gleam in Hitler's eye. It is surely time we had a public enquiry into the whole business.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT SNOWDEN,
G. DUNCAN MITCHELL,
Directors,
Institute of Population Studies,
University of Exeter,
Hoopern House,
101 Pennsylvania Road,
Exeter.
February 1.

HMS Endurance

From Lord Shackleton and others

Sir, Your columns have already carried correspondence (October 26, *et seq.*) regarding the retention in service of HMS Endurance, the Royal Navy's only vessel capable of carrying the White Ensign into the south Atlantic and ice-filled Antarctic seas, thus maintaining, both symbolically and practically, Britain's traditional position in this potentially very important land and sea area.

Since the intention to pay off HMS Endurance at the end of the current southern summer season became known, considerable public and parliamentary concern has been expressed. We the undersigned, who all have personal experience or knowledge of the present and developing situation in the area, share their anxieties.

While we appreciate the problems facing the Royal Navy in meeting essential defence commitments in a climate of economy, the decision to axe HMS Endurance is tantamount to the withdrawal of the Royal Navy from the hazardous waters where no other naval vessel can undertake all her various tasks. The saving is likely to be greatly outweighed by the consequences to Britain's future interests in what is expected to become a vital resource area.

With 21 nations from all quarters of the world now moving fast to establish or enlarge an Antarctic presence, in many cases at an expense considerable greater than this country seems willing to envisage, this is no time for Britain to pull back or be thought to be moving along a path of retreat. Besides the loss of the ship's special facilities, the withdrawal of HMS Endurance will be seen as a step in this direction. Thus Britain's influence will be diminished at a time when it will be greatly needed in the determination of conservation measures and the regulation of exploitation, as the successful Antarctic Treaty comes up for review, a treaty which Britain played a leading part in instituting.

In anticipation of that review, and of the future beyond it, national self-interests will inevitably come to the fore. No country will then want to lose out on the prospects; least of all should Britain. It seems to us vital that the White Ensign should continue to fly regularly in the south-west Atlantic and the Antarctic Ocean, for its implication of national interest goes far beyond that expressed by the presence of research ships. This would not only maintain general British interests in the area, but would also provide moral support for the totally British population of the Falkland Islands.

Yours faithfully,
SHACKLETON,
PETER SCOTT,
V. E. FUCHS,
E. G. IRVING,
MORRIS,
ERIC OGDEN,
J. R. W. PARKER,
MICHAEL SHERSBY,
T. WOODFIELD,
Royal Geographical Society,
Kensington Gore, SW7.
January 28.

European Court powers

From Mr Alan R. Tyrrell, QC; MEP for London East (Conservative)

Sir, Mr Michael Baily's fear (feature, February 1) that even if Lord Bethell wins his air fares case in the European Court of Justice, "little or nothing will happen" is ill-founded.

Although there is no machinery in the court for penalizing a defaulting member state, none has ever yet been necessary. In 23 years, there has been only one occasion when a member state (France) has through its government, not its court, stated that it would not accept a decision (the "sheepmeat case" in 1980). However, there was a political agreement to set up a sheepmeat régime, so the issue was never tested.

Member states have often delayed implementation of a decision, the worst instance being the four-year delay in the art tax case by Italy in 1972. But delay is different from denial, which would challenge the foundations of the Treaty of Rome.

The governments of member states are subordinate to their national law, which in each case recognizes the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice. So a citizen damaged by the refusal of the government of a member state to implement the court's decision could sue it in its own national court, which would inforce the law as declared by the ECJ using national procedures. This could have been done in the "sheepmeat case".

In the Bethell case, if the court holds that article 85 of the treaty and the competition regulations made thereunder apply to airlines, then the Commission itself could fine offending airlines. Fines in the order of half a million pounds are not uncommon.

It would be a pity if the idea mistakenly gained credence that member states were above European Community law. In fact, the ECJ is the first truly international court which can justly claim that its decisions are complied with. In its historical perspective, the achievement is remarkable. Let it not be belittled.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. TYRRELL,
15 Willifield Way,
Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11.
February 1.

Civilian job cuts in Defence

From the Permanent Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Defence

Sir, May we make one factual comment on your leader "Who guard the Guards?" of February 3? You state that since Mrs Thatcher took office the number of jobs in "public administration and defence" has fallen by only 2½ per cent. So far as defence is concerned, the facts are that since Mrs Thatcher took office the number of civilian jobs has fallen by 26,000 — 10½ per cent compared with the 8 per cent fall in the economy as a whole which you quote in your leader. Over the same period, the number of military jobs has increased by 18,250 (5.8 per cent).

As your readers well know, we intend to reduce the number of civilian jobs by a further 21,500 to 200,000 between now and April 1, 1984, which will take the overall rundown to 19 per cent since the Government took office.

Overall, since 1960 the number of United Kingdom civilian jobs in the Ministry of Defence has fallen by 100,000 (30 per cent). Over broadly the same period (since 1964) the number of United Kingdom military jobs has fallen by 90,000 (21 per cent).

These are recorded facts. We would not wish to draw any conclusions.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK COOPER,
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Whitehall, SW1.
February 3.

Balances of power

From Dr M. P. Coleman

Sir, When Mr Reagan stops food shipments to Poland and spends £30m on weapons for the Government of El Salvador, one has to admire his pragmatism. In the science of butchering their compatriots, the soldiers in El Salvador are streets ahead of the Poles.

Will Mrs Thatcher now ask an impresario to stage a globally televised defence of freedom for the people of El Salvador?

Yours faithfully,
MICHEL COLEMAN,
Epidemiology Department,
St Mary's Hospital Medical School,
University of London, W2.
February 2.

Women in orders

From the Right Reverend Gilbert Baker

Sir, In her article of January 25, Caroline Moorehead refers to the Rev Elizabeth Canham as the first British woman to become an Anglican priest.

This is not so, for the Rev Joyce Bennett, OBE, who is British, was ordained by me in St John's Cathedral, Hongkong, together with another Chinese lady and two Chinese men, on Sunday, November 28, 1971.

This action followed the decision of the diocesan synod, which is not under the jurisdiction of Canterbury, and the approval of the Anglican Consultative Council.

Joyce Bennett has had a distinguished and fruitful ministry in Hongkong as headmistress, pastor, and also as an appointed member of the legislative council. I hope that when she returns to her native land she will eventually be given the courtesy of a licence to officiate as a priest in the Church of England, just as I have graciously been given such permission since retiring from the bisbopric of Hongkong to settle in this country.

Yours sincerely,
† GILBERT BAKER,
Orchard End,
Nower Road,
Dorking,
Surrey.
January 26.

Love locked out

From the General Secretary of the National and Local Government Officers Association

Sir, I was sorry to read (feature, January 30) that the dispute by registration officers spoiled Mr David Hewson's wedding plans. Large numbers of people have suffered similar problems. However registration officers are not a traditionally militant group of workers and have been pushed into industrial action by the local authorities' employers. The employers have rejected out of hand a very modest regrading claim and have been most derogatory about this extremely conscientious group of staff.

Mr Hewson makes the suggestion that registration officers should go on strike to force a settlement. This shows a misunderstanding of the status of registration officers who are outside the protection of employment law and who would by guilty of criminal offences if they were to take strike action. The penalty would be fines and, possibly, imprisonment. Nalgo would be more than irresponsible to ask its members to take criminal action.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY DRAIN,
1 Mabledon Place,
WC1
February 3.

Popish plot?

From Mr D. R. Woodman

Sir, Perhaps 1982 has already thrown up a useful new verb — "to aslef", meaning to be willing to wound but afraid (really) to strike.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS WOODMAN,
26 Butser Walk,
Petersfield,
Hampshire.
February 2.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK

February 3: The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General of the Royal Marines this evening attended the Mountbatten Concert given by the Massed Bands of the Royal Marines at the Royal Albert Hall.

His Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Captain Christopher Menhenott, RM, was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

February 3: The Prince of Wales, as president, this morning chaired the inaugural meeting of the Royal College of Music Centenary Appeal Committee at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Chairman, the Mountbatten Memorial Trust, this evening gave a Reception for Trustees of the Appeal Committee at Buckingham Palace.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Colonel-in-Chief the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment (29th/45th Foot) this afternoon at Buckingham Palace received Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Wright on relinquishing command of the 1st Battalion.

Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, 14th/20th King's Hussars, received Lieutenant-Colonel D. L. de Beaujeu on relinquishing command.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, and Captain Mark Phillips this evening attended a Court Dinner of the Worshipful Company of Farriers at Innholders Hall, London EC4.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

A memorial service for Lord Pargiter will be held today at St Margaret's, Westminster, at 3.

A memorial service for Mr C. H. Gibbs-Smith will be held today at St Augustine's, Queensgate, SW7, at 12.15.

A memorial service for Miss M. G. Watkins, Headmistress of Bedford High School from 1949 to 1965, will be held in St Paul's Church, Bedford at 11 am, on Saturday, February 13. A light lunch will be served at the high school afterwards to which all are welcome.

Forthcoming marriages

Sir John Wedgwood and Dr P. Tudor-Craig

The engagement is announced between Sir John Wedgwood and Dr Pamela Tudor-Craig.

Mr J. A. N. Cameron and Miss J. R. Wurtzburg

The engagement is announced between Johnny, younger son of Sir Donald and Lady Cameron of Lochiel, of Achnacarry, Inverness-shire and Julia, daughter of Mr R. C. Wurtzburg and the late Mrs Wurtzburg, of Kensington Court Place, London.

Mr N. J. Dodd and Miss S. L. Threlfall

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, second son of Professor and Mrs J. M. Dodd, of Bangor, North Wales, and Susanna (Suzy), elder daughter of the late R. J. L. Threlfall and Mrs N. J. White and stepdaughter of Mr N. J. White, of Far Forest, Worcestershire.

Mr D. S. Fitzsimmons and Miss W. B. Evans

The engagement is announced between David Stephen, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Denis Fitzsimmons, of Limpsfield, Surrey, and Wendy, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Evans, of Wetherby, Yorkshire. Both are now residing in Shakey Heights, Ohio.

Mr R. A. Harris and Miss M. B. Bailey

The engagement is announced between Richard Alan, son of Mr and Mrs A. H. Harris, of 25, Lime Tree Road, Norwich, Norfolk, and Mary Bernadette, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. A. Bailey, of Sutfield House, Martham, Norfolk.

Mr R. K. Narain and Miss C. E. Earle

The engagement is announced between Rajiv, youngest son of Major-General and Mrs Partap Narain, of New Delhi, India, and Caroline, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs J. E. G. Earle, of Rackham House, North Elmham, Norfolk.

Mr S. R. Newall and Miss S. E. Muir

The engagement is announced between Stephen Richard, third son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Newall, Rowaleyn, Rhu, Dunbartonshire, and Sarah Evelyn, elder daughter of the late W. A. Gordon Muir and of Mrs Joanna M. Muir, The White House, Cardross, Dunbartonshire.

Marriages

Mr R. English and the Hon Mopsa Young

The marriage has taken place in London of Mr Richard Douglas English, fourth child of Major and Mrs Douglas English, of Bedford, and the Hon Mopsa Mary Young, third daughter of Lord and Lady Kennet, of London.

Captain A. de C. Hunter and Miss A. Gell

The marriage took place on Saturday at St. Mary's Church, Enville, of Captain Archie de C. Hunter, 15/19 The King's Royal Hussars, son of Mr and Mrs A. A. de C. Hunter, and Miss Antonia Gell, daughter of Mr P. A. M. Gell and Mrs Virginia Gell. The Rev Andrew Collins officiated, assisted by the Rev Jeremy Wordsworth.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Tom Hall, Charlie Cannon-Brookes, Miss Clare Hunter, Miss Camilla Hulse, Lucinda Cannon-Brookes, Samantha Hall, Ed Parsons and Jorja Critchell-Bullock. Mr Robert Schiff was best man.

A reception was held at Enville Hall and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr V. L. Seyd and Mrs A. Meredith Hardy

The marriage took place yesterday in London between Mr Victor Leslie Seyd, of Martyn Lodge, Henfield, Sussex, and Mrs Anne Meredith Hardy, of Poplars Lodge, Horsmonden, Kent.

Dr O. H. Stanley and Miss B. McMullen

The marriage took place in Bath on Friday, January 22, between Dr Oliver Hugh Stanley and Miss Bernadette McMullen.

Mr D. Walker and Mrs C. Bailhache

The marriage took place in Oxfordshire on January 30, 1982, between Mr David Walker and Mrs Christine Bailhache.

Inner Temple

Duke of Edinburgh entrance scholarships, which defray the cost of admission to the inn and call to the Bar, have been awarded to the following:

[illegible]

Royal Marines' Concerts

The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General Royal Marines, was the principal guest yesterday at the first night of the 1982 Mountbatten Concerts given by the massed bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines in the Albert Hall. The concerts are in aid of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children and service charities.

The concerts, which are given each year, provide a continuing tribute to the late Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma, former Life Colonel Commandant of the Royal Marines.

Lieutenant-General Sir Steuart Pringle, Commandant General Royal Marines, acted as host. Other guests in the royal box included:

Sir Kirby Laing, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence and Lady Lewin, Mr and Mrs Kenneth Jones, Mr and Mrs David Wyndham-Smith, the Very Rev William Baddeley and Mrs J. Mason.

Lord Forte

The life barony conferred on Sir Charles Forte has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Forte, of Ripley in the County of Surrey.

Mr Justice Hirst

The Queen has conferred a knighthood upon Mr Justice Hirst on his appointment as a High Court judge.

Middle Temple

The Masters of the Bench of the Middle Temple have awarded the following:

[illegible]

Latest wills

Mrs Madge Sanderson, of Collingham, near Wetherby, West Yorkshire, left estate valued at £148,903 net. She left £39,500 and some effects to personal legatees and the residue to the Yorkshire Cancer Research Campaign.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Arnold, Mr William Henry, of New Marton, Shropshire, company director £614,271

Blagg, Mr Alfred Edward, of Ordsall, Retford, Nottinghamshire £246,980

Elkes, Mr Wilfred Edwin, of Uttoxeter, Staffordshire £421,689

Leech, Capt John Cyril, of Nicosia, Cyprus, estate in England and Wales ...£203,912

In the hot seat: Lord Lindley gets a taste of media exposure when he carried out his first official engagement yesterday opening the MG Owners Club headquarters at Swaveley, Cambridgeshire.

Sultan's watch fetches £8,100

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A Swiss gold watch presented by the Sultan of Zanzibar to Mr James Robertson in the early 1920s was sold at Christie's yesterday for £8,100 (estimate £6,000-£9,000). It was a gift worthy of a Sultan, a half-hunter with a border of enamel and rose diamonds, the back with an enamel painting of a cavalry scene.

Among the clocks offered in the same sale the top prices were secured by a Joseph Knibb walnut longcase dated to 1685-88 at £6,480 (estimate £6,000-£8,000) and a late seventeenth century marquetry longcase clock at £4,320 (estimate £2,000-£3,500).

The sale of clocks, watches and scientific instruments was 26 per cent unsold. The high percentage largely reflected a group of 18 watches which Christie's were forced to buy in on behalf of the owner since they had failed to make contact with him to agree a reserve.

At Sotheby's Belgravia some pieces of ornate nineteenth century furniture brought prices far beyond expectations. A green onyx pedestal, 43½ inches high, embellished with a gilt-bronze frieze and gilt-bronze berried finials sold for £1,430 (estimate £200-£300) to a London dealer.

A pair of giltwood and plaster oval mirrors with leaf-carved borders, dated to around 1880, went for £1,375 (estimate £200-£300) to A & F Gordon while a gilt and patinated bronze console table supported by winged female terms made £1,265 (estimate £500-£800) to Sinai Antiques. The sale was 7 per cent unsold.

The sale of modern British art at Sotheby's Bond Street was 11 per cent unsold with a few paintings selected out for special competition. A "Landscape with buildings and trees in winter" by Nina Hammett made £1,430 (estimate £200-£300) and Drummond paid £1,155 (estimate £300-£500) for "The basement — lunch time" of 1912 by Frank Emanuel.

Luncheons

Rotary Club of London

Mr Douglas Smee, president, and members of the Rotary Club of London entertained Sir David Nicolson, MEP, and the Ambassadors of Turkey, Luxembourg, the Republic of Ireland and Finland, at luncheon at the Café Royal yesterday.

Lunchtime Comment Club

Dr David Owen, MP, was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the Lunchtime Comment Club held at the Connaught Rooms yesterday. Mr E. G. Cornish, chairman, presided.

West Africa Committee

The West Africa Committee gave a luncheon yesterday at the Charing Cross Hotel, in honour of the High Commissioner for Nigeria. Mr E. C. Judd, chairman, presided.

Receptions

Baroness Vickers

Baroness Vickers, chairman, and the council of the Anglo-Indonesian Society, were hosts last night at a reception given at the chairman's residence to welcome the new Indonesian Ambassador and Mrs Arifin to London.

British Safety Council

Dr Douglas Latto was host yesterday at a reception given at Armourers' Hall by the British Safety Council when diplomas in safety management were presented. Among the guests were:

Sir John Eden, MP, Mr Barney Hayhoe, MP, Mr Lewis Carter-Jones, MP, Mr Ian Gow, MP, Mr Robert Litherland, MP, Mr David Madel, MP, Mr Kenneth Marks, MP, Mr James Tye, (director general), Mr John Pither, Mr Alan Smith, and Mr John Jarratt.

Dinners

Farriers' Company

Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, senior assistant, proposed the toast to the guests at a dinner of the Farriers' Company held at Innholders' Hall yesterday. The Master, Mr G. K. Findlay, presided and the other speakers were Mr Peter Bromley and Mr Martin Crawshay.

Fletchers' Company

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their escorts, were present at a ladies' dinner of the Fletchers' Company held at Carpenters' Hall yesterday. The Master, Mr Deputy Eric Hill, accompanied by Mrs Hill, presided, assisted by his Wardens, Mr E. A. Davies and Mr H. L. Waterman. The speakers were the Lord Mayor, the Master and Baroness Seear.

Weizmann Institute Foundation

Mr Derrick Kleeman and Lord Sieff of Brimpton were hosts at a dinner given last night at the Savoy Hotel in honour of Mme Simone Veil on behalf of the Weizmann Institute Foundation. Among those present were:

The Israel Ambassador, Mr Shlomo Argov, Baroness Airey of Abingdon, the Hon Julian Amery, MP, and Mrs Amery, the Countess of Avon, Mr Kenneth Baker, MP, and Mrs Baker, Sir Derek and Lady Barton, Lord and Lady Beloff, the Hon Anthony Berry, MP, and Mrs Berry, Mrs Elaine Blond, Lord and Lady Boothby, Miss Betty Boothroyd, MP, Mr Arthur Bottomley, MP, and Dame Bessie Bottomley, Dr Rhodes Boyson, MP, and Mrs Boyson, Mr and Mrs Raymond Burton, Lord and Lady Byers, Lady Chain, Lord Dacre of Glanton, Mr and Mrs Harry Djanogly, Mrs Vivien Duffield, Mr and Mrs John Durnin, Baroness Elliot of Harwood, Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, Sir Derek and Lady Ezra, Sir Russell Fairgrieve, MP, Baroness Falkender, Mr Michael Fidler, Sir Monty and Lady Finniston, Lady Fisher, Lord and Lady Flowers, Mr George Foulkes, MP, the Hon Sir Hugh Fraser, MP, Mr Ronald Fuhrer, Mrs Henny Gestetner, Mr and Mrs Jonathan Gestetner, Lord Glenamara, CH, Mr and Mrs Walter Goldsmith, Sir Philip Goodhart, MP, and Lady Goodhart.

Sir Michael and Lady Hadow, Professor H. Himmelweit, Mr and Mrs Victor Hochhauser, Sir Julian and Lady Hodge, Baroness Hornsby-Smith, Rabbi Dr Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, Mr Ernest Japhet, Sir Chares and Lady Johnston, Mrs Derrick Kleeman, Miss Judy Kleeman, Mr and Mrs Peter Kleeman, Professor Sir Hans and Lady Kornberg, Mr and Mrs A. Kramer, Baroness Lee of Asheridge, Dr S. Levenberg, Mr and Mrs Henry Lewis, Sir James and Lady Lighthill, the American Ambassador and Mrs Louis, Professor Andre Lwoff, Sir Jack and Lady Lyons, Dr Oonagh McDonald, MP, the French Ambassador and Mme de Margerie, Professor and Mrs Avrion Mitchison, Mr and Mrs Eric Moonman, Mr and Mrs Mandy Moross, Professor and Mrs Albert Neuberger, Professor and Mrs Robert Owen, Mr and Mrs Martin Paisner, Professor Sir David and Lady Phillips, Mr and Mrs Chapman Pincher, Sir George and Lady Porter, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, MP, and Lady Rhys Williams, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, MP, Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, MP, Mr John Ritblat, Mr Leonard Sainer, Lord and Lady Schon, Professor and Mrs Michael Sela, Lady Sieff of Brimpton, the Hon David and Mrs Sieff, the Hon Michael and Mrs Sieff, Mr and Mrs Eric Sosnow, Mr David Steel, MP, Mr Jocelyn Stevens, Mr and Mrs Donald Trelford, Professor and Mrs P. Vatikiotis, M Antoine Veil, Mrs Meyer Weisgal, Sir Harold Wilson, MP, and Lady Wilson, Mr and Mrs Peter Wolff, Mr and Mrs David Wolfson, Sir Leonard and Lady Wolfson and Sir Gordon and Lady Wolstenholme.

Supper

English-Speaking Union

Mr Edward J. Streator, Minister at the American Embassy, and Mrs Streator and Sir Patrick Dean, Chairman of the English-Speaking Union, and Lady Dean welcomed the guests at a buffet supper given after a preview of BBC Television's new drama series *Nancy Astor* held in aid of the English-Speaking Union at the American Embassy last night.

WPC Elizabeth Pruette: Study of policing in the West Indies.

WPC wins royal travel award

Miss Elizabeth Pruette, a policewoman aged 24, was one of 12 recipients of royal wedding travel awards made by the British Council in London yesterday. She will use the money to fly to Jamaica in the summer to study policing methods and social problems.

Miss Pruette, who is based at Richmond police station in London, hopes to become a community liaison officer in an inner-city area.

"I want to see what the attitude to the police is in the West Indies, and whether we can learn any lessons from their policing methods", she said.

The awards were made by Lord Goodman.

New bishop appointed

The Ven Donald Tytler, aged 56, Archdeacon of Aston, Birmingham, was named yesterday as the next Bishop of Middleton, in the Manchester diocese.

The archdeacon, who expects to be consecrated at York Minster on July 22, succeeds the Right Rev E. R. Wickham, who resigned the see last Sunday.

Stratford ballet cancelled

By Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet has had to cancel the third week of its tour, which was due to begin on February 8 at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, because of a continuing dispute with the Musicians' Union over payments to the 46 members of the orchestra.

The dispute has already meant the cancellation of performances in Glasgow and Leeds, but an official of the ballet said last night: "We hope a solution is found before the season at Sadler's Wells Theatre opening on February 23."

The musicians have gone on strike because they have been denied retainers for the periods when the ballet is on tour abroad without them. The matter came to a head after the ballet's Christmas tour to Monte Carlo where a local orchestra was engaged. Members of the orchestra believe they should be paid half wages for such periods.

Talks are continuing between the musicians and the company, but a spokesman for the ballet said: "We do not think the musicians are justified in their cause. If we give in to them, other companies are going to face the same problems. I do not think there is enough money available to put them on a retainer."

The Royal Opera House, which oversees the ballet company, says the members of the orchestra are freelance players and are engaged on short-term contracts for each tour that takes place.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

People today are increasingly, being made to feel that their sex-reading life is inadequate and this is leading them to ask agonizing questions, such as: Should I be perusing more articles about sex? Is it a sign of immaturity not to want to write a book about sex? Have I proved an inadequate partner for the editor of *The Sun?* Oh God, do I really have to read *Ulysses?*

To sort out just where you stand in all this, I have devised a short but instructive test for readers.

1. How often do you read articles about sex?

a) Never.
b) Once or more a week.
c) Once a month.
d) When I get my hair cut.
e) Only when the man next to me in the train leaves his *Sun* behind.

2. In your mind's eye, how do you visualize Mills and Boon, the romance publishers?

a) As Cynthia Mills and Jocasta Boon, two beautiful ladies but untouchable.
b) As Nat Mills and Herbie Boon, car salesmen turned publishers.
c) As a doctor called Mills and a nurse called Boon.
d) As a small tax-haven island in the West Indies.

3. What are your reactions when you read a splash heading saying: "Exclusive: The Bed-time Secrets that Made My Marriage come Alive Again!"?

a) So bingo didn't do the trick for circulation, then.
b) That reminds me - I haven't changed the pillow slips for three weeks.
c) Either *Times* leaders have gone down-market or I've bought the *Daily Star* by mistake.

4. What would you do if your loved one came home and announced he'd bought tickets for *La Ronde* that evening as a surprise?

a) Look forward to a two-hour snooze while the actors worked their guts out.
b) Welcome the chance to bone up on Viennese décor of about 1905.
c) Shoot him.

5. What is your immediate response on reading yet another piece about rape?.

a) I am being forced to do something vile and unnatural.
b) I am probably secretly enjoying this.
c) I wonder if editors can be sued for contributory negligence?

6. You find an item in a newspaper headed: "Give Your Lover a Surprise When he Comes Round This Evening. Shoot Him!" What is your rection?

a) But I haven't got anything to wear!
b) Shooting is too good for him.
c) Not tonight. I have a bit of a headache.

7. You go out to buy a Sunday paper. Every placard for every paper announces: "Sex: Do We Read too Much About it? Major new series." What do you do?

a) Take up golf.
b) Go back to bed.
c) Shoot the paperseller.
d) Emigrate to Saudi Arabia or Libya, where they have sensible guidelines about this sort of thing.

Your Score:

If you turned to another article as soon as you saw what this one was about, well done!

If you read right through to the end, you have a problem. Send for our Moreover booklet "The Joy of Everything Else".

Champion for UK chess tournament

By David Nicholson-Lord

The organizers of the Phillips and Drew King's chess tournament have pulled off one of the chess coups of the year by securing the presence of Anatoly Karpov, the world champion, among the competitors. The tournament takes place in London in April.

Although Karpov, who last played tournament chess in Britain 11 years ago, will be the main attraction, the field is possibly the strongest ever assembled for a tournament in London and includes the second-ranked player in the world, Jan Timman, of the Netherlands. Boris Spassky, the former Soviet world champion, and now ranked sixth will also be there.

The tournament, first held in 1980, is sponsored by the city stockbrokers Phillips and Drew, in conjunction with the Greater London Council. Mr Frank Leonard, a partner in the firm, said a thrilling fortnight could be expected at County Hall from April 15 to the 30.

"This tournament will unquestionably be the greatest ever to be held in London", he added.

Karpov's last British tournament was at Hastings in 1971, when he finished equal first with Victor Korchnoi, his most recent challenger for the world championship. Since then his appearances in Britain have been limited to a team event in 1973 and some televised chess, although he is classed as an active champion and plays outside the Soviet Union in at least two tournaments each year.

Although still meagre compared with tennis or snooker, the £12,500 prize money is described as record-breaking. The winner will collect £3,500 and the runner-up £2,150

Birthdays today

Dr Hugh Sinclair, the nutritionist, who is 72.

Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Ashmore, 61; *the Hon Sir Clive Bossom, 64;* Dr P. E. Thompson Hancock, 78; Mr Robert Haslam, 59; Mr R. C. Hoban, 57; Mr Erich Leinsdorf, 70; Lord Shawcross, QC, 80; Dame Mabel Tylecote, 86.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday February 2 1957

Students to be released

Vienna, Feb 1.—The four young Britons who have been imprisoned in Hungary on charges of espionage are to be released and are due to arrive at Heygeshalom, on the Hungarian side of the border at 1 pm tomorrow. Officials of the British Embassy in Vienna will meet them at Nickelsdorf on the Austrian side. The Hungarian Foreign Ministry today delivered a Note to the British Legation in Budapest declaring that, in view of the student's youth and their admission of guilt, and as a gesture of goodwill, the Hungarian Government had decided to expel them from the country. *The* Britons being released are: Miss Judith Cripps, of Somerville; Mr Roger Cooper, of St. John's; Mr Christopher Lord, of Magdalen, and Mr Basil Lord, formerly of University College, Oxford.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Sir Arthur Hockaday, Second Permanent Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Defence, to be Secretary and Director-General of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission from October in succession to Mr A. K. Pallot.

Mr John Mackay, MP for Argyll, to be parliamentary private secretary to Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland.

Mrs Yvonne Conolly to be a *member* of the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR M. S. JANOTA

Design and development of turbochargers

Professor Marian Stefan Janota, of the Mechanical Engineering Department at Queen Mary College, University of London, died on January 30, after a short illness. He was 58.

Janota was born at Myslowice in Poland on December 12, 1923 and received his early education in Poland, During the Second World War he served in the Polish Armed Forces under British command. He studied at the Polish University College, London, where he qualified in 1951 in mechanical engineering.

He became a project designer and later Chief Performance Engineer at D. Napier and Son Ltd. where he worked on the design and development of turbochargers for marine diesel engines. In 1962 he joined the Mechanical Engineering Department at Queen Mary College and continued his studies and research on turbochargers. At the college he broadened his interests to include engine performance and combustion.

His systematic approach to the subject at a time when its importance to industry was growing led to his research being sponsored by government agencies and industry. Subsequently this work was further extended to include automotive power plants. His services were sought on a worldwide basis as a professional consultant and as an authoritative lecturer on his subject.

At Queen Mary College he was a dedicated teacher and a leading advocate of the new BEng four-year degree courses which involve industrial participation.

He was a very active Fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and chairman of the Internal Combustion Engine Group. In 1973 the Institution awarded him the Herbert Akroyd Stuart Prize.

Over the years his work was recognised with advanced degrees and promotions by Queen Mary College and the University of London which culminated in the award of the DSc(Eng) degree in 1976 and the conferment of a Personal Professorship in 1978.

He had, in conjunction with Dr N. Watson, very recently completed a comprehensive volume on turbochargers and turbocharging, which is to be published later this year.

He leaves a widow, Irene, and a son and daughter.

SIR CHARLES SYKES

Sir Charles Sykes, CBE, FRS, died on January 29 at the age of 77.

Sir Eric Mensforth writes:

Charles Sykes epitomised industry's crying need, the coupling of intellectual brilliance with practical *nous*. He was one who was willing to grapple with superficially uninviting and dirty shop floor problems and processes.

He was educated in the *industrial environment of* Staveley, at Netherthorpe Grammar School. He studied metallurgy, proceeding to his Doctorate at Sheffield University. Later he served as Pro-Chancellor, winning the respect of the academics by his wisdom and his affinity with their subjects.

Crossing the Pennines he joined the Research Department of Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co Ltd. Work at Sheffield University by Alliborne led to the development by Metropolitan Vickers of the first vacuum H.F. furnace, on which Sykes carried out research on Zirconium alloys. He was responsible for the crystallographic work which led to the first continuously evacuated X-Ray tube.

In 1930 he discovered the "order-disorder transformation"of atoms in alloy systems.

In 1940 he joined the National Physical Laboratory. He was elected FRS. in 1943. His obstinate perseverance produced the tungsten carbide, "sabot", armour piercing shot which was significant in defeating the German tank.

In 1944 he became Director of the Brown Firth Research Laboratories, Sheffield, where he carried on the brilliant tradition of Dr Hatfield, particularly on *creep, heat resisting steels* and gas turbine components. He had down to earth shrewdness, illustrated by his quietly buying "valueless" mixed alloy scrap melting it into "lumps", which individually analysed, were incor*porated into end production* melt, saving great sums in costly virgin nickel, chromium etc, alloys.

With steel nationalization and the withdrawal of John Browns from steelmaking in 1951 he courageously accepted the managing directorship. He spent much time, both on day and night shifts, on the shop floor, were he was greatly respected, and introduced new forging and heat treatment methods. A mathematical approach to hydrogen diffusion in steel provided precise programmes to ensure stability in large alternator rotors, and the foundation of a new home and export business in hardened steel rolls.

He was a man of few words, but those who thought him slow soon learnt their mistake. He received a CBE in 1956, a knighthood in 1964, the Bessemer Gold Medal in 1956 and the Glazebrook Medal and Prize in 1967.

With Norah his wife he was a regular country walker. In retirement he became a keen gardener, using however an awesome variety of his son-in-law's chemicals.

MR CYRIL GOURLEY

Mr Cyril Edward Gourley, VC, MM, who died on January 30 at the age of 88, *won the Victoria Cross in* France in 1918 when serving as a sergeant in the Royal Field Artillery, TF.

He was born on January 19, 1893 at Wavertree, Liverpool, and educated at Calday Grammar School and Liverpool University whence he graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Commercial science. He joined the Royal Field Artillery, TF in May 1914 and went to France in 1915. He won a Military Medal in 1917.

He won his Victoria Cross in the year following when in command of a section of howitzers. During an enemy advance when their forces were closing in front and on one flank, and though plagued by snipers, Gourley kept one gun going practically throughout a day. Though frequently driven he always returned with ammunition, laying and firing the gun himself and taking first one and then another of the detachment to help him.

During one point in an enemy advance he pulled his gun out of the pit and engaged a machine gun at 500 yards knocking it out with a direct hit. In the words of the citation: "All day he held the enemy in check, firing with open sights on enemy parties in full view at 300 to 800 yards, thereby saving his guns which were withdrawn at nighfall". In the same year he was commissioned in the RFA.

MR JUNZO OHNOKI

Mr Junzo Ohnoki, who was president and publisher of Japan's leading economic journal, the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*, died in a Tokyo hospital on January 25. He was 70. Ohnoki was also chairman of the Japan newspapers and publishers association.

He was born in Shizuoka Prefecture in central Japan in 1911 and after graduating from Waseda University in 1934 joined the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, the forerunner of the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun (NHK).* He subsequently covered the pacific war as the *NHK* correspondent in Singapore. Ohnoki later travelled to the United States to report on the signing of the San Francisco peace treaty in 1951.

He subsequently served *NHK* as a business manager and production manager and finally took over the post of president and chief executive officer of the company in 1976.

He played a major role in promoting the idea of publishing the *Japan Economic Journal*, the international English-language edition of *NHK.*

SIR T. SPENSER-WILKINSON

Sir Thomas Spenser-Wilkinson, who was Chief Justice of Nyasaland from 1956 to 1962, died on January 28 at the age of 82.

The son of Henry Spenser-Wilkinson, he was born on September 28, 1899 and educated at the RN Colleges, Osborne and Dartmouth and at Balliol College, Oxford. He saw service in the Navy in both world wars. He was Chief Legal Adviser, Civil Affairs, British Administration, Malaya, 1945-46 and in the latter year was made a judge of the Supreme Court, Malaya. From 1962 to 1972 he was chairman of the Medical Appeals Tribunal, Liverpool. He married in 1938 Betty Magaret, only daughter of D. A. Horner. They had a son and a daughter. His wife died in 1980.

COLONEL H. R. GRACE

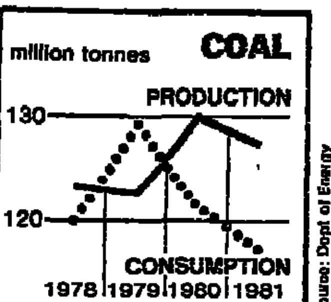
Colonel Hugh Raymond Grace, OBE, DL, late The Buffs, died on February 2 at the age of 70.

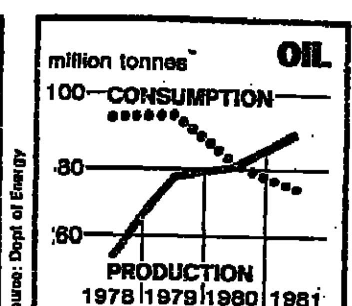
Educated at Marlborough and RMC Sandhurst he was a PoW during the Second World War and was later Military Attaché, Copenhagen, 1952-54. He commanded the 1st Battalion, The *Buffs from* 1954 to 1957. After retiring he was regimental Secretary The Queen's Own Buffs. He was a Deputy Lieutenant and a JP for Kent

He was appointed OBE in 1958.

BUSINESS NEWS

N Sea oil surplus





The United Kingdom produced 20 per cent more oil last year than it consumed according to the Department of Energy. While output increased from 80.4 million to 89.3 million tonnes, oil demand slumped by 7.7 per cent from 80.8 million to 75.5 million tonnes. Coal output also fell by 1.7 per cent from 130.1 million tonnes to 127.6 million tonnes. But demand dropped to from 120.9 million tonnes to 117.7 million tonnes, leaving a 10 million tonne surplus.

Unilever's office sale

Unilever hopes to raise £28m of the £37m it is paying for the renovation and extension of Unilever House by the sale of three interlinked City office buildings near Blackfriars Bridge near London. Two institutions are negotiating with Unilever — one for Kildare House with a £11m price for the freehold and a second for all three properties.

New docks directors

The loss-making Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, continuing its streamlining policy to achieve financial stability by the end of this year, yesterday announced the appointment of three new directors, all from within the Port of Liverpool. Director of the stevedoring operation is Mr Frank Major: personnel director is Mr Bernard Cliff; and Mr Trevor Furlong is to take up the key post of port services director.

Garrard switches to Amazon

Record turntables bearing the famous British name of Garrard will not be made in this country after April. Gradiente Electronica, the Brazilian company which bought Garrard from Plessey in 1979, is to close down its Swindon factory, with the loss of 180 jobs, and transfer production to the parent plant at Manaus in the Amazon jungle. A Garrard spokesman said sales were too low to justify continued manufacturing in Britain.

£79,000 payout

Tate & Lyle's annual report reveals £79,000 compensation has been paid to Mr Colin Lyle, who stepped down as executive director last year. He retired early as part of management changes but remains a non-executive director.

● Higher grants and more tax relief to encourage housebuilding were urged on the Chancellor of the Exchequer yesterday by building industry leaders.

MARKET SUMMARY

All eyes on interest rates

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 578.0 up 7.0
FT Gilts 64.79 up 0.19
FT All Share 330.12 up 4.25
Bargains 21,168

The interest rates war currently taking place across the Atlantic remained the dominant factor yesterday. The market experienced a renewed surge of confidence in the wake of the Bank of England's relaxed attitude to higher US prime rates and Mr Donald Regan's confirmation that the latest hiccup in US economic policy would be short lived.

As a result the pound perked up with gilts recovering from a hesitant start to close with gains of up to £1⅛. At the shorter end, the pace was a little slower with rises restricted to £¼. Equities followed suit with the FT Index rising 7.0 to 578.0, having been 8.8 at 3pm.

Many of the blue chips came in for special attention with the jobbers, short of sellers, forced to push prices sharply higher.

Barclays Bank was an early feature on fears of a rights issue that materialized as a £100m loan stock paying 16 per cent over 20 years which added 10p to the price at 468p.

Great Northern Investment Trust spurted 6p to 160p amid rumours that Barclays was about to pounce. A denial from the company saw the price slip to close only 2p higher at 156p. However, the rumour that one of the banks might move to bid for a trust remained strong last night.

A large seller of **Allied Lyons** yesterday struggled to dispose of 850,000 shares at 80p. The price closed 2½p higher at 79½p.

Arthur Guinness rose 3p to 75p ahead of today's annual meeting. Shareholders will be told that substantial progress has been made by the group to sell off its Callard & Bowser confectionary subsidiary.

Brokers Simon & Coates remain strong bulls of **Chubb**, the security group, where hopes of a bid continue to grow. Analysts have been upgrading estimates for a year to March from £9.5m to £15m, although these should include write-offs for various closures amounting to £4m. The shares rose 6p to 106p.

Scottish Metropolitan Property was unchanged at 91p after Scottish Equitable Life acquired an 8.75 per cent stake in exchange for four investment properties worth £6.9m.

Normand Electrical returned from its brief suspension 11p higher at 52p after a £5m bid from P. C. Henderson, the garage and sliding door manufacturer.

Muirhead advanced 8p to 132p amid hopes of full bid from the United States Tyco Laboratories, currently holding 22.8 per cent of the shares, while hopes of a counterbid from International Paint boosted **Arthur Holden** 5p to 189p.

Speculators were out in force for **Empire Stores (Bradford)** where the price rose 12p to 90p in a thin market. The price has risen from 66p in recent weeks helped by reports of heavy buying of the shares by charitable trusts.

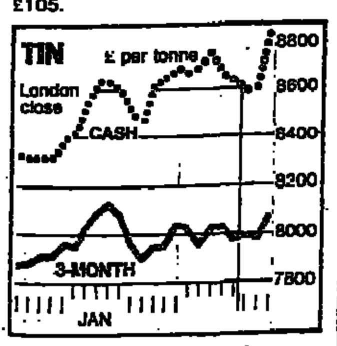
EXCO International has increased its stake in Epaley Tyas (Scandinavia) to 75 per cent and celebrated the news with a 5p rise to 208p.

Equity turnover on February 2, was £144.475m (18,573 bargains).

Michael Clark

COMMODITIES

● On the first day of the new £120 premium limit, cash tin prices rose £235 to a record £8,835 a tonne. Dealers said that a buyer of the last seven months, who has accumulated substantial tin stocks, refrained from offering tin for immediate delivery and so the price was squeezed. Three-month tin closed at £8,077, up £105.



Most of the difference between prices for immediate and three-month delivery is concentrated in the last week of February when the contracts of speculators who went short in November fall due. There is now concern that delayed tin shipments will leave the market short of physical tin at the end of the month.

TODAY

Public sector borrowing requirement and details of local authority borrowing for fourth quarter.
Farm and steel exports talks, Washington.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,384.15 down 6.0

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,860.94 up 32.94

CURRENCIES

● The dollar firmed yesterday afternoon, after showing some early weakness. It was helped by a slightly higher Federal Fund rate.

LONDON CLOSE
STERLING
$1.8600 down 35 points
Index 91.8 down 0.1
DM 4.3875
Fr F 11.1700
Yen 436.50
DOLLAR
Index 111.4 up 0.3
DM 2.3570 up 70pts
GOLD
$378.25 down $2.25

MONEY MARKETS

● The atmosphere was more relaxed with money flows roughly in balance. The Bank bought £23m of bills at unchanged rates.

Domestic rates:
Base rates 14%
3-month interbank 14⅝-14½
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 15⅞-15¾
3 month DM 10¼-10⅛
3 month Fr F 15 13/16-15 11/16

Barclays issues £100m bond for expansion

By Peter Wilson Smith, Banking Correspondent

Barclays Bank is raising £100m with the largest issue ever on the United Kingdom bond market by a private sector borrower.

Barclays, the biggest of the four United Kingdom clearing banks and the most profitable bank in the world, will use the £100m to finance expansion. It is raising the money from city institutions through a placing of 16 per cent unsecured loan stock 2002/2007 at par.

The issue is the first sizable corporate bond from a United Kingdom borrower since the early seventies.

The corporate bond market used to be an important source of long-term finance for companies in the United Kingdom but it dried up in the early 1970s as interest rates rose and companies became reluctant to commit themselves to paying high rates of interest on long-term money. They have since relied much more on bank borrowings.

Some market analysts were surprised that Barclays was prepared to pay such a high price to borrow money. They do not expect a flood of other companies to follow Barclays.

The issue was arranged by Barclays Merchant Bank and the stock brokers to the issue are Pember & Boyle and Cazenove & Co.

Barclays said that the money was not earmarked for any particular purpose but would strengthen its capital base so it could continue to grow. It would also further diversify its sources of capital. Last year it raised $100m in the United States by issuing capital notes.

Mr Frank Dolling, group vice-chairman, said: "We see the need to keep our capital base strong. There was a very considerable balance sheet growth in 1981 and we expect to see growth in 1982.

The issue of loan stock is partly paid with £25 due on February 9 and the balance by April 30.

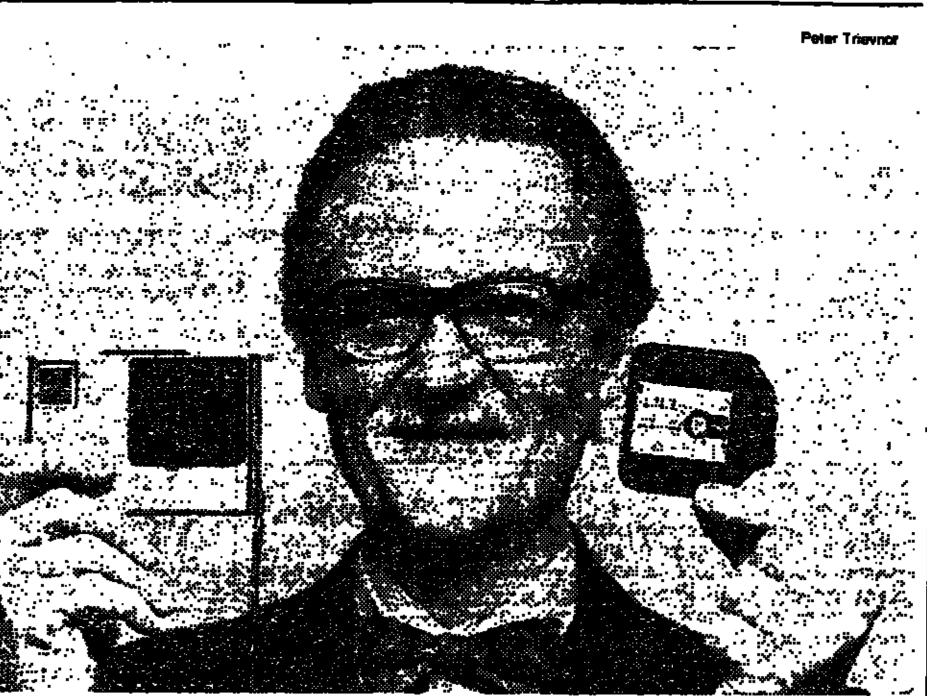
Barclays considered other altrnatives, including a rights issue, but decided against that because of the discount its shares trade on compared with net asset value. Shares in Barclays rose 10p to 468p yesterday.

Mr Dolling said that the fact the bank was raising long-term money at 16 per cent did not imply anything about what it thought might happen to interest rates.

Interest on the loan stock is payable by equal half-yearly installments on May 15 and November 15 in each year, except that the first payment will be made on November 15, 1982 and will amount to £9.60 (less income tax) per £100 nominal of stock.

The last big sterling corporate bond issue came from Inco, the leading Canadian nickel company, which raised £25m in 1981.

Peter Trievnor



Roger Leek, Kodak's marketing director with the new compact camera and film

Kodak unveils disc-film camera

Kodak yesterday unveiled a micro-processor controlled camera whose film is contained on a rotating disc and which the company believes is the most significant advance in amateur photography in the past 20 years.

The camera, launched after nine years' research, will be on sale in the United States in May and in Britain and Europe by Autumn.

Fifteen exposures are contained on a thin, flat disc which rotates automatically as each frame is used. The completed disc is contained in a cartridge.

The camera, expected to sell at about £35, is powered by lithium cells which will contain more energy.

Ian Irving — an interesting challenge

Accountant to run Express Newspapers

By Philip Robinson

Mr Ian Irvine, an accountant with no previous newspaper industry experience, will run Express Newspapers when it is floated off later this month as Fleet Holdings with other publishing interests of its parent company, Trafalgar House.

It is not yet clear whether Trafalgar's 50 per cent ownership of London's evening newspaper, *The Standard*, will be part of Fleet. The other half is held by arch rivals, Lord Rothermere's Associated Newspapers, which is believed to be objecting to the plan.

Mr Irvine, 45, was approached last month. He resigned after 20 years with the accounting firm of Touche Ross on Sunday night and now occupies an office on the sixth floor of Max Aitken House.

Mr Irvine's appointment as chief executive and managing director of Fleet was announced yesterday.

The formal prospectus for Fleet could be out next week, although a decision has yet to be taken on whether it will include a profits forecast. It is believed that a forecast was behind the sudden departure last November of Express Newspaper's managing director, Mr Jocelyn Stevens.

It has been reported that Mr Stevens's agreed departure sum was around £130,000.

Mr Irvine's salary for the top job at Fleet will be disclosed in the prospectus. As a senior accountant who has written two Department of Trade reports — on Roadships and on Court Line — he is expected to earn in excess of £100,000 a year

Export claims jump to £288m

ECGD accounts questioned

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The troubled Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) may have its accounts qualified by the Exchequer and Audit Department which examines the accounts of all Government bodies.

The ECGD has been in difficulty for some time because of the record level of claims it has been having to pay out as a result of the recession and political upheavals in various parts of the world.

Mr Kenneth Taylor, secretary of ECGD, gave a warning in December that the department might not be able to continue insuring British exports without Government subsidy.

Announcing trading results for 1980-81 he said: "ECGD's ability to continue to fulfil its two duties, of giving exporters the service they need without making a call on taxpayers money, now hangs in very fine balance."

The possibility of the ECGD's accounts being qualified is disclosed in *Accountancy Age* which quotes a spokesman for the Exchequer and Audit Department as saying that it qould almost certainly qualify the accounts on two or three aspects and would be submitting an extensive report to parliament.

A spokesman for Exchequer and Audit Department to decide if they qualify the accounts."

It is thought that the audit department's reservations could relate to changes in the presentation of the ECGD accounts. In the last financial year to March 31, 1981, ECGD had to pay out claims of £288m—a 9 per cent rise on the previous year's record level. Of this, £183m was due to political causes, notably in Iran where the department has paid out about £160m since the fall of the Shah and where there are further claims still outstanding.

Poland, where ECGD, has £850m at risk, mostly for the financing of large projects, did not make any impact on the 1980-81 results but claims have come in since then. In total ECGD has paid out nearly £800m over the last four year's and this has seriously depleted the department's cash reserves.

Because of the difficulties in ensuring an adequate level of reserves in line with the targets set for the ECGD, talks have been going on with the Treasury to try and arrive at more satisfactory targets.

One of the ECGD's problems is that a large part of its resaerves take the form of blocked loans which are due from overseas. Its actual cash provisions available to meet claims stands at about £450m.

Orders overwhelm TV computer firm

By Bill Johnstone

A company manufacturing personal computers especially for a BBC TV educational series has been overwhelmed by orders. It already has a backlog of 12,000 orders and is answering more than 1,000 enquiries a day.

The company, Acorn Computers, of Cambridge, is expecting an even greater demand when the series, *The Computer Programme*, is repeated for general viewers next month.

This is despite the fact that Acotrn raised the price of the mocrocomputer by more than £65 two days ago. There are two versions, made to BBC specfications, one now costing £299 and the other, with more features, costing £100 more.

The company said yesterday that the increase was due partly to over optimistic pricing when the computers were costed six months age and partly to the cost of answering enquiries by post.

Mr Christopher Curry, the managing director, said: "The machine was developed very rapidly and only now are we approaching full volume producton. The original pricing structure has pproved to be too optimistic, given the need for particularly rigorous procedures and various increases in component costs".

The programme began transmissions for schools and colleges on January 11. It is intended to give non-specialist an appreciaton of microcomputers.

The ten programmes, twenty five minutes long, will be broadcast on Sunday mornings from February 14 and on Monday evenings from March 22.

The project has had its share of problems. The BBC has been severly criticized for underestimating response to the series and for launching it before a proper supply of computers was available. Acorn is confident that the component problems which have held up production of the machines have been overcome. According to Acorn the custom chips made for the company presented teething problems which contributed to the original production targets slipping.

More then 4,000 of the computers have been manufactured and dispatched. They were made for Acorn by Cleartone in South Wales and ICL will begin producing the machine within several days. By March, the output from both factories should total about 5,000 a month. The outstanding orders are them expected to be cleared.

The 12,000 customers who have already placed orders will not be charged the increase.

Thatcher rules out reflationary Budget

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Prime Minister gave a clear indication to employers' and union leaders yesterday that next month's Budget would not contain large reflationary measures to stimulate the economy.

At a meeting of the National Economic Development Council, Mrs Thatcher stressed the Government's desire to see only a "gentle" take-off in the economy.

Her comments followed a submission from the TUC delegation, led by Mr Len Murray, the general secretary, that because of lack of Government support for industry, economic upturn could create severe bottlenecks in sectors which had run down their capacity.

The discussion, which centred on the effects to Britain of inward and outward business investment, came after contrasting economic proposals this week from the TUC and the Confederation of British Industry.

The employers want Sir Geoffrey Howe's Budget to include a £1,800m package of measures aimed particularly at increasing competitiveness and reducing business costs. The unions are seeking the adoption of reflationary measures costing £8,300m and based on a new tripartite national economic assessment.

Yesterday's NEDC meeting was surprisingly low key, with the TUC in particular not taking the opportunity of Mrs Thatcher's presence to complain about the Government's overall policies or the high level of unemployment.

Mr Murray and his colleagues contented themselves with presenting a paper in which they pointed out the dangers to the country of a big rise in United Kingdom portfolio investments abroad which has occurred since the abolition of exchange controls.

These had risen from £909m in 1979 to £2,920m in the first 9 months of last year, said the TUC, while inward portfolio investments fell by 50 per cent in 1980.

The TUC said financial institutions had been switching away from purchase of United Kingdom equities.

Sir Geoffrey, who disagreed with the TUC that a foreign investment review agency was needed, said that most direct investment overseas had been little affected by the ending of exchange controls.

The net effect of the increase in outward portfolio investments had been to keep down the rise in the sterling exchange rate in 1980-81 with a marginal upward impact on interest rates.

At the same time, the nation was building up important overseas earnings.

Imports problems lead to growing pressure for trade protectionism

Buy British, Biffen tells Japan

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Feb 3

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, declared her today that serious demand for some form of protectionism might soon grow in the United Kingdom if Japan does not take steps to reduce its lop-sided trade surpus within the next year.

The British minister, who is visiting Tokyo for the first time, went on to suggest that the Japanese government could ease trade frictions in the area of public purchases by importing defence and aerospace equipment from Britain.

He also implied that the Western trading partners do not believe the the latest Japanese measures to liberalize import procedures and reduce tariffs on 1,652 items will help reduce Tokyo's growing trade surplus.

"We will have to see if it works. The Japanese government thinks it is important but I have not met anyone who thinks that it will have an impact", Mr Biffen declared.

He warned the Japanese government that there could be serious consequences if the current trend in trade is not rectified within a year.

Mr Biffen admitted, however, that "nothing is going to be done which will have a quick effect on the deficit. "But the Japanese government could make a token symbol to ease the friction. I am thinking of the field of pulic purchases from the British aerospace industry. The sale of a BA-146 would have a substantial effect," he pointed out.



Mr Biffen: a warning of "serious consequences"

He admitted he had no indications that the Japanese would make any substantial purchases from the British Aerospace industry in the near future. "But I found a sharp awareness during every meeting that the trade gap is causing international anxieties, and there is a need to reduce it," he said.

During his two-day visit, when he met government and business leaders, the Trade Secretary sought assurances that Japan would continue to curb the flow of sensitive export items, such as cars. "My observations were received politely, but there was no further discussion beyond the normal courtesies," he said.

US steel men lobby for quotas

From Bailey Morris Washington, Jan 3

United States steelmakers are increasingly pressing the Reagan Administration to negotiate country-by-country quotas on steel imports from Europe to restrict supplies from abroad.

A growing number of big United States steel company executives favour the imposition of quotas as the best way to settle the massive number of anti-dumping and countervailing duty cases filed against producers in eight European countries.

The steel executives, confident of their ability to win a favourable ruling from the United States International Trade Commission, expect the European Community to press the Administration for a settlment before the ITC's final ruling.

This is the reason why American companies have developed a fallback position on a proposed settlement heavily weighted toward restrictive quotas, it is understood.

Lawyers representing United States producers have seized upon a provision of the law governing the use of subsidies which contains an amelioration clause which they claim, allows the imposition of quantitative restraints.

Some companies have already informed the Administration they will not accept a return to the old trigger price mechanism used to control the flow of steel into America by setting a minimum, allowable price on imports.

They claimed they were forced to file more than 100 complaints alleging injury because European companies ignored promises to abide by the trigger price and began flooding United States markets with low-priced, subsidized steel.

This is why neither the trigger price mechanism nor another form of price assurance from the European Community is acceptable to American producers in settlement of the cases, congressional sources said. "They want something harder," a lawyer for a large company said. He went on that the past record of steel cases before the ITC and the Commerce Department late last year and in 1980 supports the industry's view that it is likely to receive favourable rulings.

If this happens, European imports might be priced out of the United States market because of the imposition of additional, punitive duties ranging from $50 a ton to $300 a ton. The impact on the economies of some countries could be disastrous.

To prevent this, the Administration is attempting to develop a fallback position on a steel settlement with the European Community, which considers the current flood of cases as nothing less than harassment.

Officials fro both sides are expected to discuss steel and the settlement proposals during the two days of high-level trade talks which begin in Washington on Monday.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Thumbs up for Ansbacher ... Thumbs down for Burmah

Scepticism takes a bank holiday

It's a strange assumption in the stock market that, when a bank decides to do a deal, it must automatically have the money. The scepticism which greets all such announcements in the industrial sector is somehow suspended when the action takes place closer to home (Anthony Hilton writes).

For that, if for no other reason, the small City merchant bank of Henry Ansbacher deserves some attention. Late last Friday it announced that it was having talks with Seascope Holdings an obscure but highly successful financial group with interests among other things as a broker in insurance and shipping.

Since then Ansbacher shares, which were already highly rated relative to the other banks, have moved still higher. The market is plainly putting its seal of approval on a deal although the implications of it are still unknown to all, except perhaps the directors and advisers to both groups.

But the market is treading in dangerous ground, because the most cursory examination of the balance sheets of both companies, or even the most superficial examination of the profits of both companies shows that it is a massive bite for the small bank.

Whatever the benefits of the deal in the longer term, and whatever the coherance of the strategy mapped out for the small bank by Mr Charles Williams, former price commission chief, who is now its chief executive, the immediate problem facing the group must surely be how it pays for the deal.

The cash is not there in the balance sheet even if it were desirable that such a deal be done for cash, and that implies that there must be a rights issue underway, either immediately, or in the near future. And one wonders if the bulls are really prepared to put substantially more of their money where their mouths are.

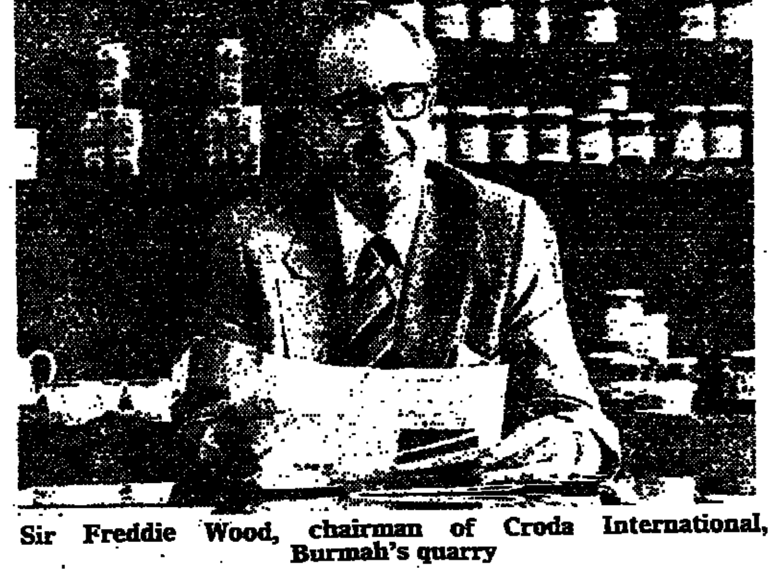
Such reasoning must only be guesswork of course, and Mr Williams and his colleagues presumably would not have gone this far without being confident they could find the money.

But the fact remains that until these issues are resolved the full implications of the deal cannot be known, and there is a danger of a false market in the shares.

If this was not apparent to the Stock Exchange last Friday it ought to be by now. The shares should have been suspended then, and at the risk of shutting the stable door rather late in the day, they ought to be suspended now.

This is not to suggest that there is anything wrong with the deal, or indeed the strategy. The name of the game for small merchant banks has changed now there are no longer hoardes of small companies waiting to come to market.


Charles Williams, chief executive of Ansbacher


Sir Freddie Wood, chairman of Croda International, Burmah's quarry

Confusion over Croda

Croda International is worth more than Burmah Oil is currently bidding (Sally White writes). That is what the share price in the market has been saying consistently, and that is what the many shareholders are pushing for. "Burmah should not be able to pick up Croda for 70p. It will not pay as much as 90p, but it might have to pay 80p", one of the shareholders said yesterday.

As against the offer price of 70p and 48p for the ordinary and deferred shares, the price in the market yesterday was 4p better. An extraordinary general meeting of Burmah yesterday sanctioned the bid for Croda. Time is drawing on on this bid, as today is the first closing.

Confusion is still reigning over the bid. Burmah said it wanted Croda for the speciality chemical side. It would market the products through its Castrol network. But speciality chemicals are a small part of Croda, although a growing one.

Even Burmah followers say that it would be picking up Croda cheaply, however curious they regard the Burmah board's rationale.

The other question mark is the fact that Burmah has announced that it is selling Quinton Hazell, its automotive component side. But by announcing this in the midst of its bid for Croda, it is making itself look a forced seller, giving the negotiation advantage to any potential buyer.

Lastly, there is still the matter of how Burmah will fund all this — not a problem for Croda shareholders, but a worry to those left holding Burmah.

Prudent work by the Pru

Successful investment is all timing. The Pru comes out top for long-term performance in a survey of investment performance over 1972-1981 of Life Office Managed Funds for pension schemes published by MPA. It has been sitting on a lot of property for many years, and the boom property years of 1972/3 gave it a head start against the competition (Sally White writes)

The point about timing also comes out in Phillips & Drew's survey of pension funds. Property does well in boom times, equities do well in anticipation of a recovery from recession, and gilts do badly when interest rates are rising.

It is important to know which way these monolithic investors are jumping - privately administered pension funds have grown from £25,000m to £55,000m in the last four years, which is quite a splash in any financial centre.

P & D's survey says that, in general, equity earnings and dividends are shown to have grown closely in line with retail prices - a trend it expects to continue. Last year, accordidng to MPA, the best performance on its survey was an average of 22.8 per cent on overseas funds.

On a five-year view, the Life Office Managed Funds beat inflation. On the 1972-1981 basis no type of investment and no managed fund kept up with the rise in living costs.



SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia's oil production fell from its official ceiling of 8.5 million barrels a day to just under 8 million barrels a day last month, oil industry sources reported yesterday. The fall is unlikely to be sufficient to offset the continuing world oil glut. With Saudi Arabian crude trading on the "spot" market yesterday at a full dollar below the official $34 a barrel price, Saudi Arabia is under mounting pressure from other Opec members to cut output.

TURKEY

Turkey may enter the Euromarkets to raise about $500m project finance later this year, Mr Ruegut Ozal, the country's Deputy Prime Minister, said in Davos, Switzerland.

After years of surviving on aid and preferential lending, Turkey has been strengthening its economy for the past two years and regards borrowing on the open Euromarket at competitive rates as an endorsement of its programme under Mr Ozal's economic stewardship.

S AFRICA

South African Breweries, the country's second largest industrial company, has bought 38 per cent of Edgars, South Africa's biggest clothing retail chain. The brewers recently bought control of Scotts Stores, a Durban-based clothing and shoe retail chain and manufacturers.

● Witwatersrand Nigel said in Johannesburg it is to curtail gold mining operations immediately, so a balance can be achieved between income and expenditure. The company said because of the depressed gold price it is impossible to forecast the length of time before total closure.

NIGERIA

Nigeria's ambitious plans to develop a $14,000m (£7,500m) liquefied natural gas plant collapsed yesterday when Western oil companies in the Bonny LNG project consortium pulled out and the partnership company was put into liquidation. The oil companies, including British Petroleum, Shell, Elf and Agip, blamed overcapacity in the European and United States gas markets for the collapse of the project.

S KOREA

South Korea's deficits with most leading trading partners widened in 1981 as the nation's overall trade loss hit a record high. The biggest loss was with Japan, which amounted to $2.93 billion — up 3.9 per cent from a year earlier.

UNITED STATES

Gross United States imports of crude oil and petroleum products averaged 5.5 million barrels a day for the four weeks ended January 22 — an 18.6 per cent drop from the comparable period average a year ago.

ITALY

An Italian industrial consortium has begun a feasibility study to build an aluminium plant in Mosambique worth up to $700m, the Fata holding group which leads the consortium announced in Turin.

WALL STREET

New York, Feb 3.—Stocks declined substantially amid continuing concerns that the Federal Reserve is tightening monetary policy, which could push interest rates higher.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 7.52 to 845.03, with most of the drops coming in the afternoon. Declines led advances by around 330 to 550 and volume widened to some 50 million shares from 45.02 million yesterday.

Analysts attributed the market's weakness to a dip in the bond market and a rise in the closely watched Federal Funds Rate to a high of 17 per cent from 15¾ per cent yesterday.

The Federal Funds Rate, on overnight loans between banks, is often erratic on Wednesdays

	Feb 3	Feb 2
Allied Chem	42	42¼
Allied Stores	24¾	25
Allis Chalmers	13⅝	13½
Alcoa	23	23¼
Amax Inc	34⅛	35¼
Amerada Hess	21	21¼
Am Airlines	10⅝	10½
Am Brands	36½	37
Am Broadcast	32¼	33
Am Can	30⅝	30⅝
Am Cyanamid	28¾	27⅞
Am Elec Power	16¼	16⅜
Am Home	36¾	36¼
Am Motors	2⅝	2⅝
Am Nat Res	32¼	32¼
Am Standard	25¼	25⅛
Am Telephone	58⅛	58⅝
AMF Inc	23½	23¾
Armco Steel	24¼	24⅞
Asarco	23⅛	23¼
Ashland Oil	27½	27½
Atlntic Richfield	39⅝	40½
Avco	17	17
Avon Products	29⅛	29⅝
Bankers Tst NY	33⅛	32¼
Bank of America	18¼	16¾
Bank of NY	39⅛	39½
Beatrice Foods	17¾	17¾
Bendix	53⅛	53¼
Bethlehem Steel	21	21
Boeing	20½	20¼
Boise Cascade	31	31¼
Borden	29½	29¾
Borg Warner	26⅞	27
Bristol Myers	55½	57½
BP	22	21⅝
Burlington Ind	22¼	22½
Burlington Nthn	50	50¾
Burroughs	32½	33¼
Campbell Soup	33⅞	34
Canadian Pacific	30⅝	31¼
Caterpillar	51⅞	52
Celanese	54	53¼
Central Soya	11⅛	11⅝
Chase Manhat	57½	57⅛
Chem Bank NY	48⅝	49
Chrysler	4⅛	4⅛
Citicorp	25	25⅝
Cities Service	37⅞	37¼
Clark Equip	26½	25⅝
Coca Cola	31⅞	32
Colgate	17⅞	17
CBS	45½	45¼
Columbia Gas	30¼	30½
Combustion Eng	34⅛	34½
Comwlth Edison	20	20
Cons Edison	33⅝	33⅞
Cons Foods	30¼	31¼
Cons Power	16⅝	16⅝
Continental Grp	31¼	31¼
Control Data	34⅝	34¼
Corning Glass	45½	46⅝
CPC Intnl	37⅜	37⅝
Crane	31½	31¼
Crocker Int	28⅝	28¼
Crown Zeller	27⅛	27⅛
Dart & Kraft	50	50⅞
Deere	33¼	33⅝
Delta Air	29⅞	28¾
Detroit Edison	11¼	11¼
Disney	49¼	50
Dow Chemical	24	23⅞
Dresser Ind	25⅛	26¼
Duke Power	21⅛	21⅛
Du Pont	35⅞	36¼
Eastern Air	5⅛	5⅛
Eastman Kodak	72¼	74¼
Eaton Corp	28⅛	29¼
El Paso Nat Gas	27¼	28⅞
Equitable Life	8⅞	9
Esmark	46	46¼
Evans P. D	15¼	15¼
Exxon Corp	29¼	30⅛
Fed Dept Stores	37⅞	37⅞
Firestone	12½	12½
Fst Chicago	17¾	18
Fst Intrst Bncp	31⅛	31⅛

	Feb 3	Feb 2
Fst Nat Boston	41½	41⅞
Fst Penn Corp	3	3
Ford	17¼	18½
GAF Corp	12⅝	12¼
Gen Dynamics	26	26⅞
Gen Electric	62	62¼
Gen Foods	30⅛	30½
Gen Mills	34¼	34¼
Gen Motors	37⅞	37¼
Gen Pub Util NY	5⅝	5½
Gen Tel Elec	29⅞	30
Gen Tire	20⅝	20⅝
Genesco	5⅞	6
Georgia Pacific	18	18⅝
Getty Oil	57⅛	57⅞
Gillette	33⅝	33⅞
Goodrich	20	20¼
Goodyear	20	20
Gould Inc	21⅛	22
Grace	42⅝	43¼
Gt Atltc & Pacific	4	4
Greyhound	15½	15⅛
Grumman Corp	25⅛	25⅛
Gulf Oil	29½	30⅛
Gulf & West	16¼	16⅛
Heinz H. J.	27⅞	28¼
Hercules	20¼	20½
Honeywell	75⅛	75½
IC Inds	31½	31½
Ingersoll	53¾	54
Inland Steel	21½	22¼
IBM	62½	62⅞
Int Harvester	7½	7½
INCO	13⅝	13⅝
Int Paper	33½	36½
Int Tel Tel	28¼	28⅞
Irving Bank	45⅝	45⅛
Jewel Co	33	33
Jim Walter	18⅝	18⅛
Johnson & John	36⅞	37⅛
Kaiser Alumin	14¼	14½
Kerr McGee	35⅛	35⅝
Kimberly Clark	63⅝	63⅞
K Mart	16½	16½
Kroger	26¼	26⅛
L.T.V. Corp	17⅛	16⅝
Litton	53½	53½
Lockheed	53½	51⅛
Lucky Stores	13	13
Manuf Hanover	33½	33⅝
Manville Cp	15⅛	15¼
Mapco	30¼	30¼
Marathon Oil	73¼	73½
Marine Midland	24	23⅞
Martin Marietta	30¼	30½
McDonnell	30½	30¼
Mead	21½	21½
Merck	83¼	84
Minnesota Mng	55½	55
Mobil Oil	22	22⅛
Monsanto	67½	68¼
Morgan J. P.	54⅛	55¼
Motorola	56½	56⅝
NCR Corp	42⅞	43⅞
NL Industries	29¾	32¼
Nabisco	32	31⅞
Nat Distillers	22¼	22¼
Nat Med Ent	16⅛	16¼
Nat Steel	24⅛	24
Norfolk West	51	50¾
NW Bancorp	22⅞	22⅞
Norton Simon	19⅛	19⅝
Occidental Pet	22	21¾
Ogden	25⅛	25¼
Olin Corp	21⅛	21⅞
Owens-Illinois	27½	27½
Pacific Gas Elec	21⅝	21⅝
Pan Am	2⅝	2⅝
Penney J. C.	30¼	30¼
Pennzoil	42½	41½
Pepsico	37	37
Pfizer	54⅛	54½
Phelps Dodge	30½	30⅞
Philip Morris	48⅝	47⅞
Phillips Petrol	35½	37
Polaroid	20⅞	21
PPG Ind	33¼	33

	Feb 3	Feb 2
Procter Gamble	84½	84⅛
Pub Ser El & Gas	19	18¼
Raytheon	35¼	35⅝
RCA Corp	16	17⅛
Republic Steel	23⅛	23⅝
Reynolds Ind	45¼	46
Reynolds Metal	19⅝	19⅛
Rockwell Int	30¼	30½
Royal Dutch	31⅛	32⅛
Safeways	26⅞	27¼
St Regis Paper	29	27⅞
Santa Fe Ind	17½	17½
SCM	21	21¼
Schlumberger	49⅝	51
Scott Paper	16⅞	16⅝
Seagram	52⅛	53½
Sears Roebuck	16¼	17
Shell Oil	38⅛	38¼
Shell Trans	28½	27½
Signal Co	26¼	26⅝
Singer	13½	13⅝
Sony	15¼	16½
Sth Cal Edison	28⅛	29
Southern Pacific	36⅝	37½
Southern Rly	93	93¼
Sperry Corp	32⅛	32⅛
Std Oil Califnia	33⅛	33⅞
Std Oil Indiana	42⅝	44
Std Oil Ohio	34¼	35
Sterling Drug	22⅛	23¼
Stevens J. P.	15⅝	16
Sun Comp	37	38⅛
Teledyne	131	133
Tenneco	29⅛	30⅛
Texaco	29¾	30¼
Texas East Corp	45⅛	46⅝
Texas Inst	80¼	79½
Texas Utilities	20	20
Textron	34¼	24¼
TWA	16¼	17
Travelers Corp	46⅛	46⅞
TRW Inc	52⅞	51
UAL Inc	18¼	18¼
Union Carbide	46¼	46⅝
Union Oil Calif	32¼	33½
Un Pacific Corp	44⅛	45¼
Uniroyal	6¼	6⅛
United Brands	10¼	10½
US Industries	8¼	8⅝
US Steel	24	24
Utd Technol	36⅝	36⅛
Wachovia	24½	24¼
Warner Lambert	22¼	22⅞
Wells Fargo	24⅛	24⅛
Westnghse Elec	25½	25¾
Weyerhauser	29⅝	29⅝
Whirlpool	25½	25⅝
Woolworth	17	17¼
Xerox Corp	39⅛	39½
Zenith	12⅝	11¼

Canadian Prices

	Feb 3	Feb 2
Abitibi	22¼	22⅝
Alcan Alumin	23¼	23
Algoma Steel	40½	41
Bell Telephone	17⅞	17¼
Cominco	51	50½
Cons Bathurst	18⅛	17¾
Gulf Oil	14⅝	14⅛
Hawker/Sid Can	11⅛	11⅛
Hudson Bay Min	21	21⅛
Hudson Bay Oil	48⅝	48⅛
Imasco	37⅝	37⅞
Imperial Oil	22⅝	22¼
Int Pipe	14⅛	14⅞
Mass-Fergsn	2⅛	2⅛
Royal Trust	14¼	14¼
Seagram	63½	64½
Steel Co	28⅛	28⅛
Thomson N 'A'	23⅛	23⅛
Walker Hiram	16	19⅛
WCT	12⅞	12¼

• Ex div. a Asked c Ex distribution h Bid k Market closed. n New issue p Stock split. t Traded y Unquoted

GALLAHER

Failing to match inflation

Gallaher Britain's second largest cigarette manufacturer whose brands include Silk Cut and Benson and Hedges, managed only a marginal profits increase for the year to December. Pretax profits rose from £80.1m to £80.4m, sales grew 5 per cent from £1,835m to £1,928m, though tobacco sales rose 10 per cent to £1,483m.

Mr Stuart Cameran, chairman, said the results were a reasonable achievement in a difficult trading environment, but had not kept pace with inflation. Two main brands, Silk Cut and Benson and Hedges Special Filter, retained their positions as market leaders.

Estimates of the total tobacco market show Gallaher has held its 29 per cent stake, despite a 15 per cent market drop in sales volume.

Tobacco sales were bolstered by good performances in roll-your-own, pipe tobacco and cigars. Overseas sales increased as a result of a good performance from the Dutch subsidiary, Niemeyer.

Non-tobacco operations, including the recently acquired Ofrex office equipment group, contributed 24 per cent of profits. The company says it expects this to grow substantially in 1982.

The distribution side of the business raised profits from £6.1m to £10.1m as a result of increased productivity. But the Optical and Pumps and Valves divisions both saw profits decline. A fall in consumer spending on spectacles was responsible in Opticals, and a reorganization has been made at Pumps and Valves. Two and a half month's trading from Ofrex brought sales of £10m and profits of £0.5m.

Mr Cameron said this provided an excellent base for future growth. Gallaher which is part of American Brands, the United States conglomerate, reduced its dividend pay-out from £27m to £15m.

P C HENDERSON

Normand bid

An agreed offer worth nearly £5m has been made by industrial door manufacturer P C Henderson for Normand Electrical Holdings, a manufacturer of electric motors and gearboxes.

The fastest growing sector of Henderson's business is electrical industries and residential doors and the group sees the acquisition of Normand as a chance to broaden its technical base.

Normand, which is forecasting losses for the current year, will continue to train undr its own name and will become a division of Henderson to which it is at present a supplier. It employees some 700 people in the UK.

Acceptances representing 50.2 per cent of the capital of Normand have been received. Henderson is offering eight new ordinary shares and 420.5p in cash for every 29 Normand 20p shares. These have come principally from the directors, who control 27.7 per cent of the shares, and Throgmorton Investment Management, which has a 21.4 per cent stake.

On the basis of the market value of Henderson immediately before the offer of 147p, it placed a value of 55p on each Normand share and valued the group as a whole at £4.95m.

Henderson hopes to combine the engineering strength of Normand with its worldwide sales and distribution network and to use spare capacity to manufacture machined and cast components at present subcontracted.

News of the takeover saw Normand shares return from suspension 12p higher at 53p, while Henderson rose 3p to 150p.

McKAY SECURITIES

Profits doubled

McKay Securities, the property investment and development company, nearly doubled its profits in the six months to September desite a slower lettings market.

Pretax profits rose to £823,000 compared with £535,000 last time and the half-time gross dividend is being held at 1.92p.

Gross rents received totalled £1.5m against £1.23m. The group's attributable rofits were £325,000 against £210,000 after interest charged on properties under development. Tax charges totalled £429,000 against £294,000.

The board, chaired by Mr G. McKay, says that the economic climate has meant a duller lettings market than had been expected. But the group believes full year profits will be satisfactory.

Last year the group made profits of £1.31m on gross rents of £2.75m.

BIDS AND DEALS

Munton Brothers is to buy Lillygould, manufacturers of ladies' blouses, for £250,000 in cash or shares.

Exco International has bought a further 25 per cent of Astley and Pearce (Scandinavia) for £738,000 cash, bringing its holding in Astley to 77 per cent.

Emess Lighting has completed acquisition of Tharene, makers of decorative lighting fittings its principal customer is Emess. Consideration: £190,000, of which £140,000 was paid at completion

The Belix Company: The management team of the Belix Company has succeeded in the management buy-out of the company from its previous owners, Filac Holdings, with the backing of ICFC and Gresham Trust and now faces 1982 with added incentive for success. Belix specializes in the design and production of power-supply equipment which is used in a wide variety of electronic installations. A large proportion of the company's output is for defence contracts involving radar and computer applications. Turnover is currently running at nearly £2m, and the outstanding order book equates to this level. The business was acquired for £500,000, and although the majority of the money was supplied by the two financial institutions, ICFC and Gresham Trust, the scheme was structured such that the Belix management have a majority interest. The refinancing of parent loans within the £500,000 purchase price, was undertaken by the company's bankers, Williams and Glyn's Bank.

Ropner Holdings: Mainsforth Investment, a company controlled by members of the Ropner family, has sold 275,000 Ropner ordinary shares. Holding now amounts to 249,769 ordinary shares (about 3.8 per cent). Mainsforth made this sale in connection with the proposed scrip issues.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Eng. & N.Y. Tst. (F)	—(—)	3.17b(2.97b)	4.2(4.3)	2.4(2.3)	15/4	4.1(4.05)
Mid Wynd (I)	—(—)	0.12b(—)	1.04(—)	0.5(—)	8/4	—(—)
Munton Bros (I)	1.6(1.37)	0.15(0.11)	1.5(1.34)	1.5(—)	26/4	—(—)
Steinberg (I)	13.6(13.9)	0.9c(0.37c)	1.2c(3.44c)	—(0.01)	—	—(0.02)
W. Selection (F)	6.47(8.66)	0.42(0.37)	3 78(4 14)	1.3a(1.3)	2/4	2.3(2.3)
Westminster Prop (F)	1.3(1.14)	0.43(0.15)	1.91(0.89)	0.62(0.2)	1/4	0.62(0.2)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net a=Paid on capital increased by rights issue: b=Gross revenue; c=Loss.

INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

Hamersley Holding of Australia reports tt in 1981 net revenue fell from $A548.09m to $A449.4m (about £266m), while consolidated net earnings slumped from "A57.17m to $A17.22m (abort £10m). The board explains tt production was hit in the year by strikes, giving rise to a loss of 13.6 per cent in available manhours. The total dividend is being cut from 16 cents to 5 cents a share.

North Kalgurli Mines: Mr. J. L. C. Jones, chairman, has written to shareholders following the closing of the partial offer for North Kalgurli by Australian Placer — wholly owned by Metals Exploration (MEL) — which now has an interest of 35 per cent in North Kalgurli. Board has consistently stated its view that it is not in the interest of all shareholders in North Kalgurli that one minority holder should control the company.

The board therefore proposes to enter into discussions with MEL to seek a compromise, whereby MEL, the largest shareholder, can participate in the direction of North Kalgurli's operations. It hopes that an agreement can be achieved.

Shell Oil has reported that its earnings increased in both the fourth quarter and full year of 1981.

President Mr John F. Bookout said the company earned U.S.$458m (£246m) in the fourth quarter, an increase of $49m from the same 1980 quarter. Net income for the full year was $1,701m — $159m higher then 1980. These preliminary results are subject to audit.

Per-share earnings were $1.48 for the quarter and $5.51 for the full year, compared to $1.32 and $4.99 for the respective 1980 periods.

COMMODITIES

COPPER was steady —Afternoon-—Higher grade cash, £862-62.50: three months £891-50. Sales: 7,675 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £859-59: three months, £889-89: Sales: 1,000 tonnes. Morning.—Higher grade cash, £861-62 : three months £891-92. Settlement, £862. Sales: 6,275 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £860-61: three months, £887-88. Settlement, £861 Sales: 50 tonnes.

TIN was strong.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £8830-40 a tonne: three months £8,075-80. Sales, 860 tonnes. High grade, cash £8,830-40: three months £8,075-80. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash £740-80. three months £7,990-800. Settlement, £8,780. Sales, 710 tonnes. High grade, cash £8,740-80. three months, £850-50 Settlement, £8,780. Sales, nil tonnes Singapore tin ex-works, $M34 70 a picul

Lead was steady.— Afternoon.—Cash £335 50-36.50 per tonne: three months £347-48. Sales, 3,025 tonnes. Morning — Cash £335-50-36.00: three m onts £347.50-48.00 Settlement £336. Sales, 5,225 tonnes..

Zinc was steadier. — Afternoon.—£444-45 per tonne: three m onths £451-51 50 Sales, 4,625 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £439-39.50: three m onths £444.50-45.50. Settlement, £439.50. Sales, 8,775 tonnes.

Platinum was at £193.30 ($360) a troy ounce

SILVER was steadier —Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot435.90p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 815.80): three months 450 85p (846.20c): six months, 465.05p (875.10c): one year 495.15p (935 60c) London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon—Cash 435 5—39.0p. three months 453 5—54.0p. Sales, 31 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 436.5—37.5p: three months, 451.5—51.8p. Settlement, 437.5p. Sales, 31 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £595 50—96 50 per tonne: three months £619—20. Sales, 2,650 tonnes Morning.— Cash £593—94: three months £616.50—17.00. Settlement, 1594 Sales, 3,225 tonnes.

NICKEL was barely steady after firmer. — Afternoon — Cash£3125-30 per tonne: three months £3165-70. Sales, 222 tonnes. Morning, — Cash £3120-30: three months £3162-65. Settlement, £31-30. Sales, 276 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo) — Mch 49.80-50 10: Apl 50.30-51.00: Apl-Jne 51 60-51.70. Jly-Sep 55.20-55 30: Oct-Dec 58.50-58.60: Jan-Mch 61.80-61.90: Apl-Jne 64.70-64.80: Jly-Sep 67.70-67.80: Oct-Dec 70.80-70.90: Sales: three at five tonnes. 371 at 15 tonnes.

COFFEE. — ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne) March 1219-1220: May 1171-1172: July 1148-1149: Sept. 1141-1144: Nov. 1137-1142: Jan. 1124-1140: March 1114-1138. Sales: 4,889 lots including 53 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton): March 1173-1174: May 1153-1154: July 1165-1167: Sept. 1177-1179: Dec. 1192-1193: March 1206-1210: May 1215-1220 Sales: 2,128 lots including 10 options ICCO prices: daily (Feb 2) 92 78c: indicator price (Feb 3) 5-day average 95.41c. (US cents per lb.)

SUGAR. — The London daily price of "raws" was £2 lower at £171: the "whites" price was £3.50 lower at £175. Futures (£ per tonne): Mch 174.60-174.75: May 177.50-177.70: Aug 180 35-180 50: Oct 183.35-183.65: Jan 184.75-185.40: Mch 189.30-189.75: May 192-192.50. Sales: 3,729 lots. ISA prices (Feb 3) daily 13.44c: 15-day average 13.11c

WOOL. — NZ Crossbreds No 2 Contract (cents per kilo): Mch 375 buyer: May 382-386: Aug 394-396: Oct 396-400: Dec 398-403: Jan 400-404. Mch 410-414: May 420-423: Aug 430-433. Sales 46 lots

POTATOES (Gafta). — Feb £101.50: April £127.30: Nov £68 80. Sales 494 lots of 40 tonnes each

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat Index on European share prices was put provisionally at 134.79 on February 2 against 133.88 a week earlier.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Pepsico: The $125m, 12-year zero-coupon Eurobond for Pepsico Inc, has been launched as expected with a 20.75 per cent price, the lead manager, Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd, said in London yesterday.

Issued in the name of Pepsico Capital Corp, the bond yields 14 per cent, and provides about $26m, excluding commissions. Pepsico issued the first zero-coupon bond in the Euromarkets last June and issued a second one in January.

Philip Morris: Philip Morris International Capital is raising a Dm150m, seven-year Eurobond with a coupon of 9¾ per cent, the sole lead manager, Dresdner Bank, said in Frankfurt yesterday. Pricing for the bond, guaranteed by Philip Morris Inc, is expected below par, but will be geared to market conditions at the signing, set for February 9. The bond is callable on February 1, 1987 at 102 and on February 1, 1988 at 101.

Market sources said the coupon is relatively low compared with general market conditions, partly because the borrower's infrequent appearance in the market makes it sought after. It last raised a Dm bond in 1972.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crds.	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams & Glyn's	14%

★ 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 11¼%, £10,000 up to £50,000 12¼%, £50,000 and over 12¾%.

هكذا من الأصل



BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

Can't hear you, Mr Poll

I scorn the gossip based on malice but what of the chatter prompted by caring? No fewer than 650 shareholders in Tring Hall Securities, which is run by Dennis Poll, aged 41, are among this second class, including the 35 institutions such as merchant banks and our big jobbing firms, who between them have already put up £3.8m through a public offering and subsequent cash calls.

City chat has it that Tring has spent its way through this money, and would like some more. Tring has done more than ayone else to make a go of the unlisted securities set up by the stock exchange as a nursery for small companies which cannot fulfil normal listing requirements. There is also dismay that newcomers have wet their nappies by falling down on their prospectus forecasts.

Tring has not been immune. I wish I could bring you word from young Mr Poll or his colleagues but alas! They are, day afterday "in meetings". Still, I am comforted that Valin Pollen, their PR form, also have trouble in vaulting Tring's newly-built walls. Perhaps a lunch with all concerned will clear the air and I for one wish Tring a prosperous 1982.

USA's latest lunch counter

Are you taking your lunch to work today? If so, the contents are of great interest to David Lyon, founder of the "Brown Bag Institute" in the United States.

He contends that there are about 80 million Americans who do so. "And my institute will study the habits and idiosyncrasies of these eaters and merchandise the results to manufacturers who make lunch boxes and the things that go in them," he said.

He is offering the research service at £11,000 a year, based on quarterly interviews with 1,000 "lunch makers and lunch eaters."

Three companies who have signed up are Nabisco's Planters division, which makes crisps and nuts; ITT Continental Baking, manufacturers of cupcakes and bread; and King-Seeley Thermos Company, which makes the lunch boxes and thermos jugs.

"Brown baggers," he says, "brown bag because of the need to economise, because they don't like the food sold at work and also want to save time."



"Here's to an economy much blacker than it's painted"

Don't call us we'll call you

Anxious to stamp out tax evasion which is officially estimated to be robbing the state coffers of the equivalent of £1,500,000m a year. Greece's new finance minister, Manolis Drettakis, set up a special service in his ministry this week, and invited citizens to call telephones 322 7002 or 322 5466 and denounce tax dodgers.

Forty-eight hours and 200 telephone calls later, Mr Drettakis was forced to announce that anonymous calls would no longer be accepted. Sixty calls, he said, were anonymous and therefore were disregarded.

Another 60 calls concerned insignificant cases, while 60 more denunciations were taken seriously and are being investigated. The minister said one concerned an Athens surgeon who had charged £290 for an operation, but refused to give a receipt.

Ross Davies

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr R. T. S.Russell, assistant managing director of Hepworth (Retail), has been appointed managing director. He succeeds Mr Alex Pirie and Mr William Beasley, joint managing directors, who have retired.

Mr J. D. Anderson is to be senior assistant director, investment department of British Linen Bank. Mr J. D. McAinish will be senior assistant director, banking and commercial lendings; Mr Eric F. Sanderson will be assistant director, corporate finance department; and Mr Ian Kirkpatrick wil be assistant director, business development department.

Mr J. Plė, Mr J. W. Symons and Mr R. G. S. Forrester have been elected to the board of Gillette industries, and Mr C. Deering and Mr R. Derwent have been elected to the board of Gillette UK.

The mystery tin buyers who challenged the Metal Exchange

Late last Tuesday morning, the committee of the London Metal Exchange threw its considerable prestige behind proposals to avert possible panic in the London tin market. But in so doing, the committee was risking a good deal more. At stake are relations between tin producers and consumers, the authority of the LME to run a fair and open market in which dealers obey the rules, and even the jealously-guarded principle of self-regualtion.

The main move made by the committee is to impose a limit of £120 a tonne on the daily backwardation in tin. A backwardation — part of the arcane language of commodity trading — occurs when the cash price of a commodity is higher than forward prices. The latter are normally higher than cash or spot prices because of storage, insurance, financing and other costs.

Backwardations of any size or duration are, therefore, unusual — although not unknown. But since the end of November, the London tin market has been subject to a massive and sustained backwardation created by a mysterious buyer or group of buyers who have pushed the price to about £2,000 a tonne above what traders considered is justified in the present market.

The buying is widely believed to have been coordinated by three leading tin producers — Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand — with the first well to the fore. They are angry about what they regard as unreasonable resistance by consumer members of the International Tin Agreement; aggrieved at the United States refusal to join the Sixth Agreement and its decision to sell General Services Administration tin surpluses; and anxious about the implications of falling tin prices for domestic employment.

These countries seem to have embarked on one of the most elaborate and expensive price-support operations the commodity markets have seen.

The buying began last July. At first the purchasers, operating through Marc Rich, a New York commodity firm registered in Switzerland, and using Maclaine Watson, a ring-dialing member of the LME, bought forward contracts. Then in November they changed tactics. In a dramatic three days, they started buying all the cash tin that anyone would sell. This opened the backwardation: spot prices are currently about £8,600 a tonne, while the three months price is around £7.900 a tonne.



Tin dealers in action at the London Metal Exchange

Up to this point, the LME — although a bit mystified by what was going on — did not interevene. Senior committee members repeatedly stressed that the buyers had broken no rules, they had not created a corner, and that it was a fundamental principle that the market should be as free from interference as possible. Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia are reported to have discussed setting up a tin producers' cartel, but that of course is outside the LME's remit.

What then has apparently caused the LME committee, always a conservative body, to change its mind? The answer is that as December gave way to January, the committee became aware of traders who had gone short during the switch of tactics in November. Going short is simply selling tin you do not have. In this highly speculative practice, a trader will agree to sell to at a given price in three months, hoping that when the time comes he can buy the tin for less.

But the sustained backwardation meant that as the crucial dates of February 25 and 26 grew nearer, these speculators faced huge losses. The LME committee began a round of personal discussions with LME members. The committee had two aims in mind: one was to ascertain how far member firms were exposed and whether they could meet losses; the other was to encourage the magic quality of confidence.

Confidence was needed. Dealers were growing increasingly nervous as rumours circulated of the huge losses to which some speculators were liable.

The pressure mounted. Huge quantities of tin — at least 50,000 tonnes — piled up in warehouses as the buyers bought everything offered.Despite spending perhaps £350m on the operation, they showed no sign of stopping. Industrial consumers of tin in America complained that metal was being shipped across the Atlantic to London, where it commanded a higher price. LME tin stocks rose to almost 18,000 tonnes by the end of last week but by all accounts, warehouses in Britain and northern Europe not registered with the LME are bulging with much more tin.

In fact, it was the availability of tin which precipitated the crisis and prompted the LME to step in. Without tin to deliver, the shorts were faced with not just a loss but an outright default. As luck would have it, two shiploads of tin have been delayed. The committee feared that in the prevailing atmosphere, and without enough tin, there might be a scramble for physical tin which would widen the backwardation still further and make the position of the shorts worse.

It was not an easy decision, however. In public and private, LME officials were adamant that they would not help the shorts. But in the event, bigger things were at stake. nobody could ignore the real risk that a combination of defaults, commercial distress, and continued unruffled buying by the mysterious operators would damage the reputation of the LME. Some traders have gone so far as to say that manufacturing users of the market might desert it for good.

The committee had, therefore, to choose between the evils of setting limits and of inaction. Mr Philip Smith, chairman of the LME board, is confident that the £120 ceiling and the pressure on members to keep the peace will do the trick.

"I have a bet that the backwardation will be less than £120 on the day," he said.

According to the new "understanding", the maximum premium over the forward price which can be demanded by a seller of tin for delivery the next day is £120. This should reduce the losses faced by the shorts. But much depends on whether those buying cash tin will accept the LME committee's authority. Last night, spot tin soared £215 a tonne to a record £8,835 a tonne as the buyers refrained from offering metal for immediate delivery.

If the LME's strategy fails, the damage to its authority could be immense. By default, the case for replacing self-regulation will be strengthened. The Bank of England, which has an informal watching brief over the commodity markets, may also suffer. Beyond that, the already strained relations between tin consumers and producers could be stretched again: there seems to be a glaring contradiction between Third World tin producers on the one hand wanting more comprehensive commodity agreements and on the other hand playing the market fiercely.

For whatever the outcome by the end of this month, the buyers had given no sign of leaving the market. On the contrary, the more they purchase and the higher they force up the price, the more they risk colossal loses if they stop. By exerting plenty of moral pressure on members and perhaps by wheeling new weapons up to the front, the LME and self-regulation will probably live to fight another day. But with so powerful an agent in the market, that day may not be far off.

Michael Prest

Where Capital meets Labour

Yesterday the Prime Minister made one of her rare appearances at the tripartite monthly meeting of the National Economic Development Council. The pressure is mounting on her to arrive at consensus policies. Here other countries' economic forums are analyzed.

PERSPECTIVE: ECONOMIC CONSENSUS

By Francis Williams

However much Mrs Thatcher may fulminate against consensus politics being the last refuge of the unprincipled, there persists the notion that if only men and women of goodwill sat down together to discuss our problems sensibly, the world might be a better place.

With moderate Tories now alluding frequently to Disraeli and "One Nation", and with the rise of the Social Democrats, it is not surprising that proposals for some kind of economic forum are being taken out of policy cupboards and dusted down for use. Indeed one of Mrs Thatcher's ministers, Mr Norman St John-Stevas, recently suggested such a body.

The idea has, in fact, been around for some time; ever since we took a look at some of our European neighbours and realized that they seemed to be managing their economies — in particular wage inflation — rather better than we were.

The notion of a social partnership between government, unions and employers, institutionally enshrined in Austria, Germany, and Scandinavia, seemed to offer an escape from Britain's endemic and destructive war between capital and labour.

Mutual distrust between British workers and their employers had led to unsupportable wage inflation, a squeeze on profits and hence on investment, while union reluctance to abandon restrictive labour practices and accept new technology held back productivity growth. Unions, on the other hand, could reasonably argue that they could not allow their members' jobs to be lost if the Government was unwilling to pursue policies which would lead to new jobs being created elsewhere. And the unions were not prepared to hold back on pay claims unless they were sure this would ultimately benefit their members and not rich shareholders.

Proponents of an economic forum, bringing together the Government and both sides of industry, believe that a better understanding of how the economy works will lead to greater consensus over what should be done, better decisions by the parties involved and so to greater economic prosperity.

Only three years ago, the consensus on the need for consensus appeared to be overwhelming. In the space of a few months, the Confederation of British Industry, 12 "moderate" members of the TUC General Council, a joint statement from the then Labour Government and the TUC, and the Manifesto Group of right-wing Labour MPs all put forward proposals for some kind of forum or "national economic assessment". A forum was also suggested in the Conservative's economic policy statement of October 1977, *The Right Approach to the Economy*.

But Mrs Thatcher's dislike of consensus politics, and the Government's resolution to stick to hardline monetarist economic policies and sweeping union reform, has put constructive dialogue with the unions at least out of the question.

Nevertheless the CBI again proposed a forum in its discussion paper "*The will to win*" last year, the TUC-Labour Party liaison committee is committed to a "national economic assessment", and the Social Democrats are moving hesitantly in the same direction. A number of SDP MPs are ex-Manifesto Group members, and a leading light of the party's economic policy group, Professor James Meade, came out in favour of a forum in his important book on wage fixing.



The basic idea is for a tripartite grouping which would come together at least once a year to discuss economic policies and prospects, notably for the coming pay round. The forum would, for instance, have before it assessments of the impact of different rates of pay increases on output, employment, inflation and living standards in the light of government monetary and fiscal policies. Not unnaturally the unions especially want to be able to discuss and influence government policy as well, including matters concerning industrial strategy and income distribution.

The forum might be based on the National Economic Development Council, whose members are drawn from government, both sides of industry and other organizations including the National Consumer Council, which stages (sometimes intemperate) discussions on economic policy issues two or three times a year. Or it might be set up as a new body.

The big divide is between those who see the forum as having a purely educational function — as does the CBI — and those who think its main purpose should be to come up with some sort of pay norm or guideline.

Either way, the British system, unusual in Europe, of voluntary and decentralized pay bargaining is likely to make it extremely difficult for decisions, agreements, or just greater understanding by those on the forum, to filter through to pay deals.

In addition, of course, there is far more agreement than here among European "social partners" about economic management and objectives.

But in recent years, especially following the oil price shocks and the general slowdown of economic growth in the West, governments have found themselves in frequent conflict with the unions over inflationary pay deals; despite bribes of tax concessions, subsidies and even, in Sweden, a price freeze.

The idea of a forum is also open to criticism that it is anti-democratic and a step on the road to a corporate state, with cosy deals sewn up between non-elected representatives who are not accountable to Parliament. Others would argue that, on the contrary, a forum might place constraints on the unbridled powers that the unions, say, already enjoy. But there is no doubt that the experience of the social contract between the Labour Government and the unions between 1974 and 1979, in which the unions extracted legal as well as economic concessions as the price for pay restraint, made many democrats deeply uneasy.

But perhaps the most fundamental question that forum advocates must answer is: can institutions themselves create consensus or can they only build upon it?

In particular, understanding will not lead to consensus if the Government is pursuing policies which are not acceptable to the other social partners. All the parties have to agree on the cure as well as the diagnosis.

Of one thing we can be sure: none of this will put off those to whom the beacon of sweet reason continues to beckon out of the incohate darkness of Britain's industrial relations.

HOW OTHER COUNTRIES ARRIVE AT AGREEMENTS

COUNTRY	NAME OF INSTITUTION	WHO IS REPRESENTED	FUNCTION
Austria	Joint Commission on Wages and Prices	Unions, employers, farmers, government-appointed experts	Reviews all requests for higher wages and prices
	Economic and Social Advisory Board	As above plus economics ministry central banks, Austrian Economic Research Institute	Discusses economic outlook and policy, makes recommendations on fiscal and monetary policy and on labour market
Germany	Council of Economic Experts	Mostly academic economists	Reports to government on economic situation including wage bargaining
	——	As above plus unions, employers, government and central bank	Economic framework for pay bargaining
Japan	Industry and Labour Round Table	Unions, employers, government and independent experts	Discusses major labour issues
Netherlands	Social Economic Council	Unions, employers and government-appointed experts	Consultative body on all matters of social economic policy
	Foundation of Labour	Unions and employers only	Most central negotiations on wages
Norway	Ankrust Committee	Independent experts, unions, employers	Reviews economic situation
	Contact Committee	Government, unions, employers, farmers, fishermen	Discuss Incomes questions
Sweden	(Unnamed)	Unions and employers	Centralised bargaining
Australia (statutory)	Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission		Fixes national wages

Source: A. J. H. Dean, "Roles of governments and institutions in OECD countries" in Frank Blackaby's, "The future of pay bargaining." Heinemann Educational 1980.

Business Editor

The German tightrope

If the possibility of American interest rates remaining high through the spring is worrying the British Government, then it is no less of a worry for the West Germans. That is even more the case after yesterday's news of a further sharp rise in the country's unemployment figures.

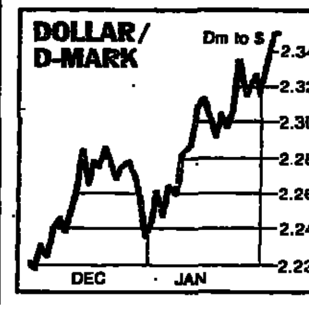
When the Bundesbank cut the special Lombard rate in mid-January, it may well have taken the view that both American interest rates and the dollar were due to fall during the coming months. Probably it still believes that, for all the signs at this stage are that none of the major European central banks are yet ready to be panicked by the latest American developments.

Let us hope it is right. The Germans economy is in as much need as any other of a boost from lower interest rates. Domestic actvity is stumbling and, the coalition government now looks set to open the fiscal regulator more than it intended,

Clearly, though, even the proposed fiscal expansion is going to be of only limited impact so long as real interest rates remain at 5 per cent plus. Yet the feeling that the Germans can go it alone regardless of what happens in the States lacks credibility, in spite of the prospect of a further strong improvement in the current account this year (perhaps with the total elimination of last year's DM17,500m deficit in prospect).

The fact of the matter is that with American real interest rates closer to 7 per cent, the markets are already pushing the D-Mark lower. That is a process that may not go all that much further as markets increasingly look for somehing to happen to close the interest rate differential.

Optimists must look for the closing of the differential to come from a speedy reversal of the recent upward flip in dollar interest rates. But if this week's American money supply figures disappoint yet again and Chancellor Schmidt happens to lose tommorow's vote of confidence, then next Monday could prove a very uncomfortable day for world markets. It could, of course, all happen the other way around.



Loan stocks
Fine for banks

The United Kingdom corporate bond market has been lying virtually moribund since interest rates took off in the early 1970s, so it is ironical that a clearing bank—one of the main beneficiaries of high interest rates—should be the first to re-enter the market in a significant way. Few industrial borrowers would dream of raising long-term fixed rate money at 16 per cent and it naturally prompts the question as to why Barclay's is prepared to, especially as its last public pronouncements on interest rates in the *Barclays Review* were for a general decline durng 1982.

Given the discount to assets which bank shares trade on—something more than a third in the case of Barclays—there are abvious attractions in raising loan stock rather than taking the usual course of calling on shareholders for new equity. Furthermore, seen in terms of an 8 to 9 per cent average servicing cost on its loan capital—£432m at end 1981 compared with shareholders' funds a year earlier of about £1,900m—the marginal cost of the loan stock issue is less significant.

The third point is that the increased borrowing and lending which Barclays will be able to take on by gearing up on the new capital should generate profits enough to cover the cost of the new capital comfortably.

While all this helps to explain why Barclays itself is prepared to pay 16 per cent to raise £100m now, there is not much sign of anyone else rushing in its wake. But the pension funds and other institutions with long-term liabilities must be delighted at even this single offering.

The Barclays issue is not only the first significant issue by a domestic borrower for more than 10 years, it is also the biggest yet in nominal terms, topping the £96m of 10½ per cent Imperial Group loan stock.

For Barclays itself, the issue is apparently part of its regular capital raising. Last year it raised $100m of capital notes on the United States market at 14⅝ per cent. Although the group's capital base was strong enough at end-1980, the balance sheet has grown strongly since then, partly due to sterling's fall.

Productivity
Better but . . .

Just at the moment when the Chancellor needs to see the picture of the economy at its clearest, the signs are about as murky at they can be. Mr Pym and the CBI, backed up by such indicators as the unemployment figures, suggest that the economy has not made any appreciable recovery over the past six months and may not do so in the immediate future.

The Prime Minister, the Chancellor and the estimates of gross domestic product say that we touched bottom in the summer and have been coming up since.

Yesterday Mr John Biffen came out on the side of the optimists, particularly in the important struggle to improve competitiveness. He noted that productivity was rising twice as fast as the OECD average and that the pay round was going well.

But the sanguine interpretation that the Government has made permanent change for the better in British industry may be an over-simplification. The recent recession has been marked by the most dramatic reduction yet in the capacity of industry.

If the weakest go to the wall, the average of those who survive will be stronger. But that does not mean that the survivors have themselves become much more efficient than they were, nor that they will be able to make big gains in future.

This fits in with the signs that employment continues to fall quite rapidly and that CBI members see little indication that their output has picked up yet. The improvement in productivity has come largely from the elimination of the unproductive and the willingness of workers to try harder to hold on to their jobs. What we have yet to see is convincing proof that British Industry has found the recipe for doing what its competitors do, which is to boost productivity by finding better ways of doing things than using its existing techniques with a little more determination.

Stock Exchange Prices

Renewed confidence

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 25. Dealings End Feb 12. § Contango Day, Feb 15. Settlement Day, Feb 22

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

UNDATED

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

174	108	Magnet & S'thns	154	• +4	7.1	4.6	11.0
217	97	Man Agcy Music	117	-2	12.5	11.3	9.5
203	100	Man Ship Canal	105	..	..e	..	..
35	21	Mang Bronze	31	+1	3.1	10.0	..
154	72	Marchwiel	137	+3	8.6	6.3	..
145	106	Marks & Spencer	143	+3	5.8	4.0	19.5
51	33½	Marley Ltd	46	+½	3.2	7.0	15.0
37	14½	Marling Ind	36	+1	1.4	3.9	25.2
42	22	Marshall T Lox	42	..	4.0	9.5	3.3
40	21	Do A	40	..	4.0	9.9	3.6
280	178	Martin News	280	+2	13.9	5.0	6.1
270	209	Martonair	228	..	10.9	4.8	13.3
74	48	Medminster	64	..	5.3	8.3	6.9
250	140	Menzies J.	233	+2	5.6	2.4	11.6
234	128	Metal Box	180	-2	16.5	9.2	15.6
52¾	37¼	Metalrax	40	..	3.1	7.8	6.5
25	12	Mettoy	15	+1	0.1	0.9	..

O—S

66	46	Strong & Fisher	59	..	7.1	12.9	..
110	79	Sunlight Serv	106	+1	3.6	3.4	8.7
52	37	Sutcliffe S'man	42	..	..e	..	..
183	92½	Swire Pacific 'A'	104½	..	..	..	..
195	140	Sylfone	195	..	12.9	6.6	21.6

T—Z

26	15	TACE	20	..	..e	..	6.0
121	85	TSL Therm Synd	93	..	10.0	10.8	5.1
25	10	Takeda BDR	£24	..	17.6	0.7	26.4
6½	2½	Talbex Grp	4¾	..	..	..	..
440	316	Tarmac Ltd	440	+6	23.3	5.3	7.6
220	126	Tate & Lyle	218	..	16.4	7.5	5.9
607	441	Taylor Woodrow	580	..	19.0	3.3	10.3

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 3	Market rates (close) February 3	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8580-1.8750	$1.8590-1.8610	0.15-0.25c disc	0.60-0.70c disc
Montreal	$2.2425-2.2550	$2.2435-2.2455	0.10-0.20c disc	0.65-0.80c disc
Amsterdam	4.78-4.82fl	4.80-4.81fl	1½-1¼c prem	4½-4¼c prem
Brussels	74.40-74.90f	74.58-74.70f	10-30c disc	70-90c disc
Copenhagen	14.30-14.39k	14.33-14.35k	105-195ore disc	435-570ore disc
Dublin	1.2380-1.2465p	1.2410-1.2430p	30-45p disc	120-135p disc
Frankfurt	4.37-4.41m	4.38½-39½m	1⅝-1½pf prem	4½-4pf prem
Lisbon	127.00-128.25e	127.00-127.30e	45-165c disc	150-420c disc
Madrid	184.25-185.75p	184.35-184.65p	5-25c disc	70-87c disc
Milan	2337-2349lr	2337-2339lr	13½-16½lr disc	48-51lr disc
Oslo	11.03-11.10k	11.04-11.06k	145-35ore prem	195-90ore prem
Paris	11.10½-11.18f	11.16½-11.17½f	½-1½c disc	3½-4¼c disc
Stockholm	10.62-10.70k	10.63-10.65k	135ore prem-25ore disc	370-310ore prem
Tokyo	432-440y	436-437y	2.85-2.50y prem	8.60-8.25y prem
Vienna	30.60-30.85sch	30.60-30.65sch	15-10gro prem	37-30gro prem
Zurich	3.50-3.54f	3.52-3.53f	2-1½c prem	5¼-4¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.1 at 91.8

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 14 Low 13

Week Fixed: 14

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13 25/32	2 months	13 11/16
3 months	13 19/32	3 months	13 15/16

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	15⅞-13 15/16	1 month	14⅞
2 months	13 25/32-13 11/16	2 months	14⅝
3 months	13¾-13⅝	3 months	14½
6 months	13 11/32-13 5/16	6 months	14¼

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15¼-15	7 months	14¼-14
2 months	15-14¾	8 months	14¼-14
3 months	15-14¾	9 months	14⅞-14⅝
4 months	14⅞-14⅝	10 months	14⅞-14⅝
5 months	14⅝-14⅜	11 months	14⅞-14⅝
6 months	14¼-14	12 months	14⅝-14⅜

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	14 9/16-14 7/16	6 months	14½-14¼
3 months	14½-14⅜	12 months	14½-14¼

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14⅞	3 months	14½
7 days	14½	6 months	14¾-14½
1 month	14½	1 year	14 9/16-14½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14⅞-14⅝ Close 14

1 week	14½-14⅜	6 months	14⅝-14½
1 month	14 9/16-14 7/16	9 months	14⅝-14½
3 months	14⅝-14½	12 months	14⅝-14½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)

3 months 15 6 months 15

Finance House Base Rate 15½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.7000-1.7150
Bahrain	0.7020-0.7065
Finland	8.3450-8.3850
Greece	111.70-113.70
Hongkong	10.9460-10.9860
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.5300-0.5330
Malaysia	4.2710-4.3010
Mexico	49.05-50.55
New Zealand	2.3220-2.3320
Saudi Arabia	6.3735-6.4035
Singapore	3.8965-3.9255
South Africa	1.8190-1.8340

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5000-1.5020
† Canada	1.2063-1.2055
Netherlands	2.5790-2.5820
Belgium	40.08-40.11
Denmark	7.6825-7.6925
West Germany	2.3565-2.3575
Portugal	68.30-68.50
Spain	99.35-99.45
Italy	1257.00-1258.00
Norway	5.9250-5.9350
France	5.9900-5.9950
Sweden	5.7100-5.7150
Japan	234.35-234.50
Austria	16.49-16.51
Switzerland	1.5900-1.5920

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8291-0.8293

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13½-14½: seven days, 15¼-15⅛: one month, 15½-15¼: three months, 15 11/16-15 9/16: six months, 15 11/16-15 9/16.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $378.75 (an ounce): pm, $373.00 close, $378.25.
Krugerrand (per coin): $390-392 (£209.40-210.40).
Sovereigns (new): $92.5-93.5 (£49.70-50.20).

طبق الأصل

Review of last year's rainfall

The third year in succession to be wetter than average

By John Grindley, Meteorological Office

Total rainfall in 1981 over the United Kingdom exceeded the average for the third consecutive year, by about 10 per cent over England, Wales and Northern Ireland and by about 6 per cent over Scotland. As is often the case, marked departures from normal were apparent in the seasonal trend.

The spring (March-May) was particularly wet over England and Wales and to a lesser extent, over Northern Ireland. In the 254 years of estimates of monthly rainfall over England and Wales as a whole, there has been only one wetter March than that of 1981, in 1947, when snow melt associated with the rainfall caused devastating flooding over much of lowland England; fortunately, such an eventuality did not arise in 1981. The spring quarters of 1979, 1947, 1818 and 1782 were wetter than that of 1981, but only marginally so.

In general, the summer (June-August) appears to have been considered rather poor but the apprehension of a poor summer may lie rather in the response to temperature and sunshine than to rainfall. The summer of 1981, overall, was rather dull and not very warm but rainfall was some way below average for the countries generally. Indeed, for England and Wales as a whole, drier summers may be expected no more often than once in 7 or 8 years. As usual, many thunderstorms occurred throughout the country, some of them discussed below, but few attained the organization of the several storms in 1980, which laid swathes of heavy rainfall across the country.

Autumn months, September and October, were wet over the United Kingdom generally, and over Scotland, November was almost as wet as the previous two months. Over England and Wales, autumns wetter than that of 1981 can be expected about once in 20 years, but over Scotland, the combined total for September-November 1981 was the highest on record, not only for those months but for any period of three consecutive months.

Two spells of severe wintry weather occurred during the year, both unusual in their incidence. The winter of 1980-1981 was not noted for severity generally but an extraordinary spell did occur towards the end of April 1981, just as the natural progression towards summer seemed well under way. The spell was short-lived but brought extensive disruption to traffic over most of the country.

The second spell began about December 8 and continued for about three weeks, unusually early in the winter for such prolonged severe weather. A thaw helped by heavy rain spread gradually from the South in the last days of the year. Extensive flooding occurred in southern and midland England but in the North flooding was delayed into the new year.

The map shows the distribution of rainfall as a percentage of annual average. Range of percentage values is rather small in 1981, the wettest areas relatively lying in parts of northwest England, with more than 130 per cent. The effect of the storm of August 5-6 is apparent in the Greater Manchester area. Among the largest and smallest annual totals were 3739mm at Styehead in the Lake District and 504mm at Etton, Cambridgeshire.

General values of rainfall are given in the following table:

	% of 1981	1941-1970 av mm	Diff from av mm	%
England	916	837	+ 79	109
Wales	1534	1385	+149	111
England & Wales	999	912	+ 87	110
Scotland	1522	1431	+ 91	106
N Ireland	1215	1095	+120	111

Annual totals for representative stations are:

	mm	Per cent of average 1941-1970
London (St James's)	689	113
Margate	578	100
Worthing	901	126
Bristol	386	119
Cambridge	589	106
Plymouth	1126	114
Penzance	1208	119
Walsall	806	109
Carlisle	833	96
Bradford	930	107
York	716	117
Stockton-on-Tees	561	100
Lowestoft	629	104
Cardiff	1153	105
Anglesey (Valley)	901	104
Fishguard	1184	111
Llandrindod Wells	1124	115
Douglas	1275	112
Eskdalemuir	1630	108
Edinburgh	629	93
[illegible]	1037	114
[illegible]	1159	111
[illegible]	1357	106
[illegible]	843	96
[illegible]	837	95
[illegible]	677	102
[illegible]	837	88
[illegible]	2039	113
[illegible]	1347	123
[illegible]	960	122
[illegible]	1404	120
[illegible]	925	107
[illegible]	1144	117
[illegible]	973	106

January and February were in the main uneventful months with respect to rainfall, although even in uneventful months, hilly western districts may experience rainfall, with moist westerly winds, which, for persistence and amount, would astonish many inhabitants of lowland Britain. At notoriously wet Honister, in the Lake District, for example, 134mm was recorded on January 2 and 145mm on February 2. One of the quietest, most settled spells since the winter of 1980, began on about February 21 and lasted for almost a fortnight in the South. After general rain-fall on February 2 there was also a long dry spell in the month, with up to 3 weeks without rain in south-east Scotland. Unsettled rainy weather began towards the end of February, continued almost throughout March.

Rainiest periods occurred from March 5 to 13 and 20 to 25 over Britain generally. As an example of the considerable rainfall in the two periods, Waen Sychlwych, Brecon Beacons, recorded 368mm on March 6-13 and 336mm on 20-26; the total for March was 769mm, much higher than the annual average for London. recorded in 7½ hours. This was the heaviest thunderstorm on record for April and was unusually early in the season for a storm of such intensity and duration.

The blizzards started on about April 24 in the Border counties of England and Scotland (most of Scotland was little affected) and progressed south to reach south-west England by April 26. In south-east England and East Anglia, the precipitation ocurred as sleet or rain and did not lie. Near Sheringham, Norfolk, 126mm was recorded for April 24-26, and subsequent flooding in Norfolk may have been the worst since 1947. Rainfall for April in northern Scotland was remarkably low, amounts in north-west Highland and the Grampians being less than 10mm.

Although May was a thoroughly unsettled month, there were few occasions of really heavy rain, even in the hills. The precipitation was notably thundery in character and on May 27 a line of thunderstorms was apparent from Kent to Lewis: at Glasgow, in one of those storms, 60mm was recorded in 4½ hours.

The thundery weather of May continued into June and in the early hours of June 2, violent thunderstorms moved north from France. Several storm tracks were apparent. The longest and the one with heaviest rainfall was orientated from the Sussex coast to west of the Wash; more than 60mm was recorded to the north of Worthing and in Northamptonshire. The period from June 12, particularly in southern Britain, became quite dry and virtually rain free in many parts of southern England, including the Thames Valley, but east Kent experienced a period of exceptionally heavy rainfall towards the end of the month; 73mm was recorded at Manston, near Margate, from shortly after midnight on June 24 until the early hours of the 27th.

July was a generally dry month over the United Kingdom, but the weather never became settled. Rainfall tended to occur in runs of two or three days and amounts remained generally small. Heavy local thunderstorms did occur, however, three of them in central London on July 9, 22 and 31. In the first of those 58mm fell in about an hour at Kingsway. Even heavier falls occurred elsewhere that day; for example 101mm at Herongate, Essex and 80mm at Littleover, Derbyshire. Parts of the South escaped the heavier rain throughout and recorded only 4 or 5mm up to July 20.

August, too, was a rather dry month over England, Wales and southern Scotland, the only significant rainfall being on the 5th, 6th and 19th. Perhaps the outstanding rainfall event of the year occurred on August 5-6 when, following a short heatwave, severe thunderstorms broke out quite widely over England in a very complex distribution. The first of the storms appeared in the evening of August 5 in the Shropshire-Greater Manchester area and extended across the Pennines to West Yorkshire. At Eaton, Cheshire, 132mm was recorded and at Manchester airport about 100mm fell in 11 hours.

Meanwhile, in separate thundery systems, heavy rain was falling in the Midlands from Gloucestershire to the Lincoln Edge where rainfall in that area continued for much of August 6. A third area of heavy thunderstorms crossed the Sussex coast in the early hours of August 6 and moved northwards over London towards the Wash; as much as 60mm was recorded in that storm which was also remarkable for spectacular lightning displays and complete darkness at midday.

Scotland experienced more unsettled weather in the month, but even there the last 10 days were mainly dry. Areas which missed all heavy storms, for example Cornwall, recorded very small amounts, 2 or 3mm, for the whole month.

The settled dry weather of late August continued generally up to September 9 although September 4 was an extremely wet day in Northern Ireland and western Scotland, where 63mm was recorded at Glasgow. But from September, 9 very wet, unsettled weather persisted up to November 3.

A rather drier spell intervened from November 4 to 8 over Scotkand before the resumption of unsettled weather, and the drier spell persisted up to November 15 in southern Britain. September 19 was, perhaps, the wettest day of the year over Britain generally, with a mean depth of 27mm; an exceptonally high total for the whole island. The heaviest rain on that day fell mainly, but not exclusively, in western hills: for example, 40mm was exceeded quite widely in southern counties of England.

The period September 14 to 19 was abundantly wet in central and South Wales. At Waen Sychlwch, already noted for its wet March, 229mm was recorded in 6 days. The heavy rainfall of September 19 did not reach northern Scotland until the next day, when the second heaviest daily fall of the year in Britain, 143mm, was recorded at Dubh Loch, near Ullapool. The axis of heaviest rainfall on September 26 the wettest day of the year over Scotland, extended from Loch Fyne through the Tay area to the mid Dee valley near Braemar. The largest daily total was 100mm at Auchnafree Lodge, Perthshire.

The astonishingly wet weather from mid-September reached a climax in the early days of October, when general rainfall for October 1 to 3 over Scotland amounted to 77mm, the wettest three days on record for the country. At Annalong, in the Mourne Mountains, 171mm was recorded on October 1-2 most of it on the second day.

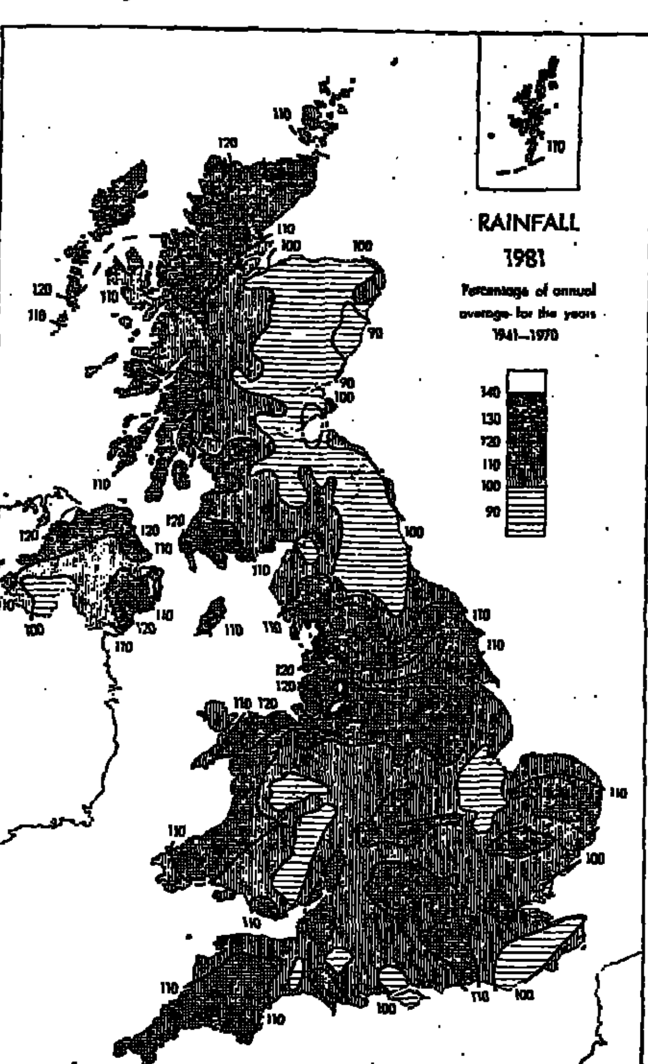
The unsettled weather continued throughout October, the driest period being from October 12 to 17 in southern Britain and Northern Ireland. Further peeriods of heavy rainfall were experienced on Scotland, northern England and Wales from October 8 to 19. The only other day of significant heavy rainfall in England and Wales was October 24, but the last 10 days of the month were by no means dry anywhere in the United Kingdom.

The first fortnight of November was quite dry in southern Britain with, for example, barely 1mm being recorded over much of the Thames Valley. The dry spell was short-lived in Scotland, heavy rain recurring over much of the country on November 9 and in the North on November 10. Unsettled weather then continued for the remainder of the month over Scotland, with heavy general rainfall on November 19, 21-22, 25 and 29 the last being one of the wettest days in Scotland in an extremely wet autumn.

Unexceptional weather occurred in the first week of December; it was rather mild and precipitation was mainly light. The three severe wintry weeks began on about December 8 in southern England and South Wales. Rain in the South-west quickly turned to snow as a waving front passed across the south of the country. A few days of extremely cold, foggy weather was followed by further snowfall on December 10-11 which again mainly affected southern Britain.

The worst blizzard in the wintry spell occurred on December 13 when snow spread from the South to all but the extreme north of Scotland and gale force winds caused deep drifting. The snowfall was followed by rainfall and flooding in the extreme south of Britain. Further rain fell in southwest England on December 15-18 but most of the country had a drier spell from December 15 to 18.

The next outbreak of widespread snowfall occurred on December 19-20, again starting in south-west England with heavy rain (60mm total precipitation occurred on Dartmoor). December 22-25 was mainly quiet, albeit with severe cold and freezing fog. The third and, for 1981, ultimate incursion of mild air occurred on December 26-27 and the milder weather reached all parts of the country by the end of the year.



MONTHLY RAINFALL

Rainfall is shown in the following table in mm and as a percentage of average for the month

	England and Wales		Scotland		Northern Ireland	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Cricket

West Indies carried to victory on the shoulders of their captain

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Adelaide, Feb 3

The third Test match between Australia and West Indies ended here this evening in the eighteenth of the last 20 overs with victory for West Indies by five wickets. They thus levelled the three-Test series and retained the Sir Frank Worrell Trophy. Needing 236 to win in three hours and a quarter plus 20 overs, they had to fight for every one of them, though once again Australia had only three fit bowlers.

Despite the injuries which so handicapped Australia—perhaps even because of them—it was a marvellously good game, a resounding repudiation of Mr Lynton Taylor's outrageous theory (he being managing director of PBL, who are hired to promote, not disparage, the game for the Australian Cricket Board) that Test cricket in its present form is archaic. The match ended with Clive Lloyd, the West Indian captain, being carried from the field by two of his enormous henchmen, who, as soon as he hit the winning run, doubled to the middle and bore him off in their human howdah. It was a gesture of respect and affection.

Had they held their catches in the last hour Australia might even have won. As it was, to come as near as they did to saving it, after losing their first four wickets for 18 runs on the first morning and with Chappell, Hughes and Lillee crippled, was a splendid effort. They lost today not so much through putting down their catches in the closing overs but when, once Hughes and Marsh had been parted this morning, their second innings collapsed.

From the way Hughes and Marsh started off it looked as though we were in for a tame finish. They both picked up where they had left off on Tuesday evening, playing sensibly and without much difficulty. Just as one was beginning to wonder about the last occasion on which a batsman using a runner, as Hughes still was, had scored a Test hundred, the innings fell apart. Good catches close to the wicket accounted for Marsh and Hughes: Marsh, driving at Holding, was well picked up at silly mid-off, low down by Haynes; Hughes, unable to move his feet in time to scotch a ball from Garner, was caught at forward short leg by Bacchus, right handed.

Having been 362 for four at a quarter to 12 Australia were all out at twenty-five to one for 389. Chappell, appearing for the first time since Saturday evening, was leg-before to Garner, half forward but playing no stroke; with two good hands he would no doubt have been playing the ball.

All season Australia have been carrying a long tail and today Garner made short work of it.


Lloyd : kept West Indies on the rails

No one was to do more to try to win the game for Australia than Thomson. I had bad indigestion from having written Thomson off so often, only to have to eat my words. It was he who had Haynes caught at the wicket in the third over of the innings and who broke a partnership of 100 between Greenidge and Richards which was rather spoiling the game.

When, out of the blue, Pascoe bowled Richards with a ball he will never forget, West Indies were 114 for three. The rest, like most of the match, was compulsive watching.

As he is always doing these days, Lloyd kept West Indies on the rails. Again, just as they seemed to be freewheeling home, they lost a wicket, Gomes being bowled by Pascoe at 176. That was with 17 overs left and for the next 20 minutes or so Bacchus bore a charmed life. When he was two, Wood was so sure that he had caught him at short leg off Yardley, off bat and pad, that when his appeal was refused he threw his helmet on the pitch. In Yardley's next over Bacchus survived a straight-forward chance to Pascoe at deep mid-off.

Australia had two more chances of keeping themselves in the game. They twice dropped Lloyd, Malone, a substitute, putting him down at long-on off Yardley, and then, at 209, Yardley himself dropping him at cover point off Thomson, a square slash that went straight in and straight out. Whereupon Lloyd, just past 50 at the time, scythed most of the remaining runs.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings: 238 (A R Border 78, G S Chappell 61; M A Holding 5 for 72, A M E Roberts 4 for 43).

Second Innings

G M Wood, c and b Holding ..	6
B M Laird, c Dujon, B Croft ..	78
J Dyson, c Lloyd, B Garner ..	10
A R Border, c Dujon, b Roberts	126
K J Hughes, c Bacchus, b Garner	84
†R W Marsh, c Haynes, b Holding ..	38
*G S Chappell, l-b-w, b Holding	7
B Yardley, b Garner ..	6
D K Lillee, c Dujon, b Garner	1
J R Thomson, c Bacchus, b Garner ..	0
L S Pascoe, not out ..	0
Extras (b 7, l-b 10, n-b 13)	30
Total ..	386

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—10, 2—35, 3—201, 4—267, 5—362, 6—375, 7—383, 8—383, 9—383, 10—386.

BOWLING: Holding, 29—9—70—3; Roberts, 24—7—64—1; Garner, 35—15—56—5; Croft, 32—4—90—1; Gomes, 14—1—38—0; Richards, 18—3—38—0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings: 389 (H A Gomes 124 not out, C H Lloyd 53, P J Dujon 51).

Second Innings

C G Greenidge, c Marsh, b Thomson ..	52
D L Haynes, c Marsh, b Thomson	4
I V A Richards, b Pascoe ..	50
H A Gomes, b Pascoe ..	21
*C H Lloyd, not out ..	77
S F A Bacchus, c Lillee, b Pascoe	27
†P J Dujon, not out ..	0
Extras (l-b 2, w 1, n-b 5) ..	8
Total (5 wkts) ..	239

A M E Roberts, M A Holding, J Garner and C E H Croft did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—7, 2—107, 3—114, 4—176, 5—235.

BOWLING: Thomson, 19.1—4—62—2; Pascoe, 22—3—84—3; Yardley, 16—0—68—0; Lillee, 4—0—17—0.

England keep going and so does Gavaskar

From Richard Streeton
Kanpur, Feb 3

England's bowlers never looked like achieving the breakthrough they sought in the sixth Test match here today. Another innings of monumental patience by Gavaskar was England's main undoing. India went on to reach 179 and saved the follow-on with seven wickets in hand. Once again in this series tomorrow's final day will be meaningless.

Rain first thing cost an hour's play and England were handicapped by a wet ball. The pitch emerged from its covers slower than ever and any ambitions the England attack held must have quickly evaporated. They stuck to their work with great commitment though and Willis and Dilley bowled at times as fast as at any other time on the tour.

Gavaskar, however, was in his most obdurate mood. He survived an early leg before appeal against Botham but after this never looked like getting out. By lunch he had reached 18 and by tea he was 44. In the end it was a throw of almost freakish accuracy by Botham that brought his downfall by a run out. Viswanath pushed Underwood to the offside and Gavaskar set off for a run and then changed his mind. Botham gathered the ball and threw with unerring aim to the bowlers' stumps and hit them with Gavaskar narrowly failing to get back. This is the only Indian Test ground on which Gavaskar has not made a hundred and from the annoyance he showed with himself it was an omission he had intended to remedy. Gavaskar's 52 took him to exactly 500 in this series, the first batsman on either side to reach the milestone. He had batted four and a quarter hours, faced 180 balls, hit three fours and shown remorseless concentration.

In contrast both Vengsarkar and Viswanath batted with far more freedom and were the perfect foil. India resuming at 12 for one scored 54 runs in the hour's play before lunch and Vengsarkar scored 36 of them. He twice drove uppishly against Willis and Botham but nowhere near a fieldsman and his timing made light of the wet grass. Underwood and Emburey slowed the tempo after lunch before Vengsarkar was out soon after the first of two ball changes that were necessary inside an hour.

Playing a forcing stroke on the back foot, Vengsarkar lifted the ball waist high and Fletcher at deep point took a good catch to off Dilley in the same over.


Gavaskar : first to 500

After tea England turned to spin again and when Viswanath cut Emburey for a single he joined Gavaskar on 46 having come in more than two hours after his captain. India were 166 when Gavaskar was run out. It is only the third time in 134 Test innings that Gavaskar has been run out. The previous instances were also against England, at Manchester in 1974 and Edgbaston in 1979.

As the light worsened Viswanath off drove exquisite fours in successive overs against Underwood and Emburey to ensure the follow-on was avoided. The umpires conferred once but the day was completed with India finishing 193 for three and Viswanath within range of his third hundred in this series. His only serious error was at 47 when he lofted a ball from Emburey high towards midwicket and it dropped between Dilley and Tavaré.

ENGLAND: First Innings, 378 for 9 dec (I T Botham 142, D I Gower 85, G A Gooch 58; D R Doshi 4 for 81)

INDIA: First Innings

*S M Gavaskar, run out ..	52
P Roy, b Botham ..	5
D B Vengsarkar, c Fletcher, b Dilley ..	46
G R Viswanath, not out ..	70
Yashpal Sharma, not out ..	6
Extras (l-b 5, w 1, n-b 8) ..	14
Total (3 wkts) ..	193

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—12, 2—79, 3—166.

BOWLING (to date): Willis, 15—3—48—0; Botham, 13—3—39—1; Dilley, 9—2—31—1; Underwood, 18—8—26—0; Emburey, 20—5—35—0.

Umpires: M V Gothoskar and D Doctor Dotiwalla.

Yardley tops poll

Adelaide, Feb 3.—Bruce Yardley, the Western Australia off-spinner, has been voted player of the year in Australia by cricket writers and commentators. Yardley took 38 wickets in the six Test matches against Pakistan and West Indies and received two votes more than the Pakistan all-rounder, Imran Khan. The award was won last season by Dennis Lillee.—AP.

Skiing

Twin peaks on Mahre mountain

From Dudley Doust
Schladming, Austria, Feb 3

The American skiier, Steven Mahre, was born four minutes later than his twin brother, Philip, and always has been a little slower coming down the mountain. But, in a thrilling reversal of roles, he beat Phil and the rest of the field to win the giant slalom today at the Alpine world championships.

The gold medal, even more surprisingly, was the first won by a male American in world or Olympic championships. The favourite, Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, came second and an outsider, Boris Strel, of Yugoslavia, finished third. Phil Mahre skidded off the track only eight seconds below the starting hut on the first run.

It was fairytale stuff. The Americans, aged 24, are like the Bedser brothers, a rare pair: twins and top sportsmen. Steve has never before won an important giant slalom race—his best is the tighter slalom—and early last December it appeared he might not race at all in these championships. He damaged a knee in a fall at Val d'Isere and on December 20 underwent microsurgery to remove bits of cartilage from one knee and adjust the cap on the other. In a day, Mahre was on his feet, in two he was running and in a week skiing.

Steve was drawn to start fourth, Stenmark seventh and Phil 13th, all reasonable positions on the cold, hard track. Steve set a target of 1min 2.32sec, which looked very beatable. Stenmark chose a fast, plummeting line, as is his habit down a giant slalom. It was a mistake. The course was more twisty than it had looked. His rhythm went wrong. He banged his shoulders into the firm, two-legged gates one after another, slowing his pace. Overcorrecting, he swung wide and clocked a humdrum 1:22.69, which left him fourth.

When Phil came his shoulders were curiously wild — and suddenly he was gone at the fifth gate.

On the second run on a second course the leaders raced in reverse order. Stenmark, collecting his form, attacked the course and set an intimidating total time of 2min 39.31sec.


Steve, the "wrong" Mahre for the right occasion.

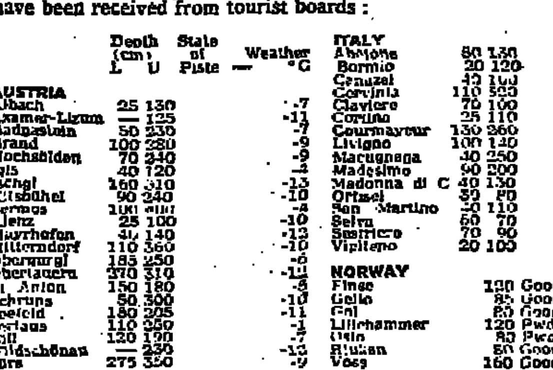
Disregarding his brother's instructions, Steve took too straight a line and lost time at the turns at the top of the course. As he passed the midpoint, he thought the race was lost. Stenmark, watching the television screen below, knew better. Mahre was only five hundredths of a second behind at midpoint for the run and, computing, Stenmark knew the American had a full second to spare. Mahre's gifts are for steep run-ins, such as Schladming's, and moments later the Swede had lost to the wrong Mahre.

GIANT SLALOM: 1, S Mahre (US), 2min 38.80sec; 2, I Stenmark (Sweden), 2:39.31; 3, B Strel (Yugoslavia), 2:39.42; 4, J Gaspoz (Switzerland), 2:39.49; 5, B Noeckler (Italy), 2:39.80; 6, H Enn (Austria), 2:39.98; 7, B Krizaj (Yugoslavia), 2:40.01; 8, J-L Fournier (Switzerland), 2:40.19; 9, A Navillod (France), 2:40.77; 10, H Strolz (Austria), 2:41.28. British placing: 31, N Wilson, 2:56.90.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Crans-Montana	130	240	Good	Crust	Good	Fine	0
Good skiing on all pistes							
Davos	140	250	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-1
Perfect skiing everywhere							
Flaine	170	500	Good	Crust	Fair	Fine	3
Icy patches on lower slopes							
Kitzbühel	90	200	Good	Powder	Fair	Fine	-6
Sunshine and good skiing							
Les Arcs	150	320	Good	Varied	Fair	Clear	-4
Worn patches on some slopes							
Niederau	100	230	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Fine	-4
Icy patches on lower slopes							
Saas-Fee	80	180	Good	Crust	Poor	Fine	-4
Worn patches on lower slopes							
St Moritz	85	150	Good	Crust	Good	Fine	-4
Lower south-facing slopes icy							
Verbier	75	235	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	3
Sunny spring skiing							
Villars	35	145	Good	Crust	Fair	Fine	6
Some icy patches							
Wengen	60	150	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-4
Excellent piste skiing							

In the above reports, submitted by the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from tourist boards:



	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
AUSTRIA					
Alpbach	25	130			-7
Axamer-Lizum	—	125			-11
Badgastein	50	230			-7
Brand	100	280			-9
Hochsölden	70	240			-9
Igls	40	120			-4
Ischgl	160	310			-13
Kitzbühel	90	240			-10
Lermoos	100	[illegible]			-4
Lienz	25	100			-10
Mayrhofen	40	140			-13
Mitterndorf	110	360			-10
Obergurgl	185	250			-6
Obertauern	370	310			-11
St Anton	150	180			-5
Schruns	50	300			-10
Seefeld	180	205			-11
Serfaus	110	250			-1
Söll	120	190			-7
Wildschönau	—	230			-13
Zürs	275	350			-9
ITALY					
Abetone	80	130			
Bormio	20	120			
Canazei	40	100			
Cervinia	110	500			
Claviere	70	100			
Cortina	25	110			
Courmayeur	130	260			
Livigno	100	140			
Macugnaga	40	250			
Madesimo	90	200			
Madonna di C	40	130			
Ortisei	30	80			
San Martino	30	110			
Selva	60	70			
Sestriere	70	90			
Vipiteno	20	100			
NORWAY					
Finse		100	Good		-6
Geilo		85	Good		-4
Gol		80	Good		-10
Lillehammer		120	Pwdr		-8
Oslo		80	Pwdr		-14
Rjukan		60	Good		-10
Voss		160	Good		-10

Boxing

Holmes goes to work on the heavy bag

Las Vegas, Feb 3.—Larry Holmes, the World Boxing Council heavyweight champion, has started heavy training in preparation for his title bout on March 15 against the number one contender, Gerry Cooney. The 32-year-old champion sparred and worked out on the heavy bag yesterday.

Holmes arrived in Las Vegas, where the bout will be held, last Friday after training since January 9 in Pennsylvania. Cooney is expected to arrive later this month from his training camp in New York State. Cooney, aged 25, has boxed a total of only six competitive rounds in the past 27 months, and only one in the past 17 months.

☐ The WBC light-welterweight champion, Saoul Mamby, of United States, will defend his title against South Korea's Kim Sang-Hyun on April 11 in Pusan. The 27-year-old Korean lost the title to the Jamaica-born boxer exactly two years ago in Seoul.

Willstrop beaten

Kuala Lumpur, Feb 3.—Chris Dittmar, of Australia, beat Christy Willstrop, of England, 9—4, 9—4, 9—3, in the semi-finals of the world junior squash championship here today.—Reuter.

Tennis

Mrs King retires because of an emotional upset

Detroit, Feb 3.—Billie Jean King, who has won the Avon Championships of Detroit three times, walked off the court during the third set of her first round match on Tuesday night and retired from the $150,000 tournament's singles competition. Ann Kiyomura was declared the winner of the match with a score of 3—6, 6—3, 1—0.

Mrs King, who was seeded eighth and who was scheduled to play in a doubles competition on Wednesday night, said she had been upset since last week when she learnt that Andrea Buchanan, a player on the professional women's tennis tour and a close friend of Mrs King, had been shot dead.

"Emotionally, I was not up to my game, and I could not concentrate on hitting the ball," Mrs King said after the match. "I apologize for my behaviour, it was not professional." She left the court shortly after a controversial call on a service that appeared to be an ace, but was ruled out by the referee. Her service then was broken by Miss Kiyomura, who won the first and only game of the third set.

"Everybody in the stands is going to think it was the officiating that prompted the walkout", Mrs King said, "but it was not."

Earlier in the evening, the top seed, Andrea Jaeger, needed less than an hour to advance to the second round, beating Eva Pfaff, of West Germany, 6—0, 6—1.

FIRST ROUND (US unless stated): B Fairbank beat N Yeargin 6—3, 7—5; B Gadusek beat H Sukova (Czechoslovakia) 6—2, 6—4; M Jausovec (Yugoslavia) beat K Latham 6—2, 6—2; M Piatek beat A Thompson 6—3, 1—6, 6—2; W White beat B Nagelsen 6—4, 6—4; A Kiyomura beat B King 3—6, 6—3, 1—0, rtd; A Jaeger beat E Pfaff (WG) 6—0, 6—1; L Allen beat K Jones 6—3, 6—1.

Hockey

Airmen prepare well for title defence

By Sydney Friskin
Oxford University 0 RAF 3

The Royal Air Force went into lively action at the Parks yesterday to beat Oxford University convincingly in their annual match. Oxford won 2—0 last year, but without Mansfield and Gill, were not properly equipped for yesterday's skirmish.

The RAF, a little disappointed after their 10—0 defeat by Yorkshire on Sunday, in the County Championship, took heart from this win in preparation for the defence of their Services title next month. They were almost at full strength yesterday, the only notable absentee being Old, who suffered a leg injury in Sunday's match.

There should really have been more than one goal at the end of an eventful first half. The RAF earned four short corners, all for obstruction, from which two shots were saved by Niblett and two were cleared off the line. Oxford missed two penalty strokes and Stevenson, who took them, put his first shot against the crossbar. Pappin's outstretched hand saved the other.

The RAF were eventually successful from their fifth short corner, which was converted by Hedley with a hard shot from the top of the circle. They just failed with another just before the interval, but increased their lead immediately after the start of the second half, with Bates pushing the ball over the line after picking up a pass from the left by Bales.

Oxford, led by Iley, with Lawless in close support, raised their game from the tenth minute of this half and it was their turn to earn the short corners. They had three in quick succession, all of which came to nothing.

In the dying minutes of the game the RAF scored again, from their eighth short corner, Bates dispatching a powerful shot which penetrated a packed defence.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: P Niblett (Charterhouse and New College); *J Gordon (Kingston GS and Lincoln), J Mallinson (Wellington and University), J North (Belfast AI and St Edmund Hall), S Quiddington (Nottingham HS and Wadham), *C J Iley (Kingston GS and New College, captain), N Stevenson (Taunton and St Benet's Hall), *C Lawless (St Edward's, Oxford, and Christ Church), M Robinson (Framlingham and Lincoln), *H Blackett (St Edward's, Oxford, and Christ Church), G Warren (Merchant Taylors', Northwood, and Balliol).

RAF: F/O V G H Pappin; Cpl M Dykes, F/Lt I Draper, Sgt A Stalker, Sgt I Clinton, Sgt C Duerden, F/Lt P Sutton, J/Tech S Channa, F/Lt T Hedley, Sgt R Bates, Sqn/Ldr S Bales (Captain).

Umpires: F Hubber (Combined Services) and P Gill (Southern Counties).

*a Blue

Olympic Games

Football placed in jeopardy by poor facilities

By Norman Fox
Sports Correspondent

Football will be withdrawn from the 1984 Olympic Games in the United States unless facilities at one of the stadiums are dramatically improved. Three venues were approved by the International Olympic Committee's delegates visiting Los Angeles this week but the fourth was rejected.

Although Olympic football is an eastern dominated sham in which, since 1960, no western team has fielded a side strong enough to reach the final, the Americans would be loathe to lose its financial potential. Football attendances in the North American Soccer League have dropped disturbingly, but the Olympic tournament was expected to be profitable if building costs were limited.

The Olympic organizers will have to spend a large amount on the Long Beach stadium or forfeit football. Dr Artemio Franchi, the Italian vice-president of FIFA, said the stadium had no grandstand, changing rooms or facilities for dope tests. He said nothing had been done since the IOC delegates last visited Long Beach last year.

Dr Franchi said: "The other three stadiums are excellent but we consider it impossible to organize the Olympic tournament properly without a fourth stadium." He added: "The organizers don't want to look for a stadium outside the region, so either they must pay for the improvements at Long Beach or there will be no football at the Olympics."

Olympic TV deal

Los Angeles, Feb 2.—Rupert Murdoch's network 10 will televise the 1984 Olympic Games to Australia, for US $10.6 million, it was announced here yesterday. Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, said the contract brings the total revenue from television rights for the Olympics to US $345 million.

Connors upset

Toronto, Feb 2.—Peter McNamara of Australia, scored the first upset of a $350,000 tournament here last night, beating Jimmy Connors, of the United States, 6—3, 3—6, 6—4 in round-robin play.

RESULTS (US unless stated): P McNamara (Australia) beat J Connors, 6—3, 3—6, 6—4; [illegible] beat A Panatta (Italy), [illegible]; I Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat E Teltscher 6—3, 6—3.

Football

Two dismissed and skill retreats

By Norman Fox

West Bromwich 0 Tottenham 0

This season's Football League Cup final at Wembley could be memorable involving, as it probably will, Liverpool and Tottenham Hotspur. It cannot be worse than last night's torrid semi-final first leg at the Hawthorns where early promise turned sour with two players sent off, and seven names taken.

The referee found himself on a slippery road when he decided to take three names in as many minutes in the first half. He was then unable to avoid taking four more and finally sending off Jol and Galvin after irritable shirt-pulling and some punches.

While, even from the start, there was ample physical commitment in this rugged tie, there had been some subtlety and imagination. The shrewdest influences were Hoddle, for Tottenham, and the Dutchman, Jol, playing a similar deep role for Albion. They stood back from the preliminary skirmishes and made the effective moves with commendable accuracy. Unhappily, Jol later showed a less attractive side to his nature.

By a small margin, Hoddle was always the more accurate, cleverly putting back spin on forward passes and giving Crooks and Falco space ahead of him. Albion made strenuous efforts to do the same for Regis, who again looked full of power and confidence, but it was Monaghan who first disturbed Clemence.

Unfortunately, Monaghan's dramatic, low, hard but wide shot from Regis's delicate pass stretched a groin muscle and after 25 minutes he had to be replaced by Cross. Albion spent some time readjusting and in the meantime Tottenham took a grip on the game with Ardiles particularly enterprising, despite the fierceness of the tackles.

Hoddle's perception was beautifully deployed when splitting the Albion defence to put Crooks in possession almost on the goal line. Crooks pulled the ball back across the goal and Grew just managed to block Miller's connexion.

In a three-minute period the referee had to cool tempers by taking three names: Price brought down King, Jol made sure Hughton's dangerous breakaway was stifled and Crooks had to be cautioned as the main culprit in the early exchanges of what came dangerously close to a free-for-all. Mr Tyson's action was only briefly effective.

Tottenham were content to let their opponents frustrate themselves in midfield. The breakaway speed that Albion had shown in previous matches was subdued; the link between a solid defence and Regis lacking in ideas. So Villa and Ardiles were too often unopposed while Hoddle's long passes to Falco, Crooks and Galvin continued to be the feature.

Only when Hoddle committed himself to the occasional excursion outside his own half did Albion outnumber this Spurs defence.

Urgently needing to use the wing, Albion persuaded Statham to go forward but Tottenham's defence is no longer the brittle fence of the past. Frustration gathered, and the four names taken in the second half were Galvin, Hoddle, Batson and Villa.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION: M Grew; E Batson, D Statham, A King, J Wile, M Bonnell, M Jol, D Monaghan (sub N Cross), C Regis, G Owen, S MacKenzie.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R Clemence; C Hughton, P Miller, P Price, R Villa, S Perryman, O Ardiles, M Falco, A Galvin, G Hoddle, G Crooks.

Referee: G M Tyson (Sunderland).



A brick in the Tottenham wall: Price heads clear as Hughton (left) keeps watch

Yesterday's results

League Cup

Semi final, first leg

West Brom (0) 0 Tottenham (0) 0
32,000

Second division

Newcastle (1) 2 Bolton (0) 0
Trewick (pen) 14,361
Wharton

Norwich (1) 2 Sheff Wed (1) 3
O'Neill Bannister 2
Barham Pickering
15,767

Third division

Lincoln (0) 3 Chester (0) 0
Peake 2,120
Cammack
Shirley (pen)

Oxford U (1) 1 Reading (0) 0
Jones 9,353

Fourth division

Hartlepool (1) 1 Darlington (1) 2
Bird McLean
4,548 Walker

Hereford (0) 0 Aldershot (0) 1
2,253 Sanford

Group Cup

Quarter final

Peterbrgh (0) 0 Wimbledon (0) 1

Scottish Cup

Second round, replay

G Fairydn (2) 3 Cowdenbth (1) 2
Russell og. Forrest pen
Nolman, Lothian McFarlane

Third round, replay

Meadowbnk (0) 4 Clyde (0) 2
Boyd Nevin
Georgeson Doherty
Hennie

Winners away to Dundee

Scottish premier division

Partick (0) 0 Aberdeen (0) 0
St Mirren (0) 1 Dundee U (0) 0
Richardson

Scottish first division

Clydebank (0) 0 Raith (0) 1
Gibson

Dunfermline (0) 0 Ayr (0) 0

Scottish second division

Brechin (2) 2 Berwick (0) 0
I Campbell 2

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Weymouth 1, Trowbridge 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Wellingborough 1, Bedford 1. Cup fourth round: Dover 0, Wealdstone 2.

SURREY SENIOR CUP: First round, replay: Sutton United 3, Metropolitan Police 0.

SUSSEX SENIOR CUP: Third round: Crawley 0, Lewes

SCHOOLS: Alleyn's, Dulwich 3, Christ's Hospital 1; Arch Bishop Tenisons 5, South East London 2; Falmouth 1, Redruth 2; Falmouth II 1, Redruth II 1; John Hampden 1, Langley GS 1; King Edwards, Whitley 0, Oratory 4; Marshalls Park 1, Brentwood 1.

RUGBY UNION: Bath 47, RAF 4; Moseley 15, Loughborough Students 0; Pontypool 35, Penarth 6; Cross Keys [illegible] Newport 14.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Hull 12, Wigan 8.

Bristol City thrown a lifeline

By Stuart Jones

Eight sacrificial lambs were laid on Bristol City's altar yesterday. Shortly before the noon deadline, the eight players agreed to accept an improved offer of redundancy and so saved the club's immediate future. Their terms of compensation, though, are linked to the success of a new £1m share issue as well as a moratorium with the club's creditors.

Geoff Merrick, a former captain and one of the eight involved, said: "I am heartbroken. Bitter is not a word I like the sound of. I took my boots into the ground this morning in the hope that things would not turn out the way they have, but I shall still be there on Saturday to support the team." They are at home to Fulham, the third division leaders.

"We have gained a lot more than we would have done if we had accepted their ultimatum. The amount will be about £63,000 between us and anything that comes from the testimonial match." That game, between Ipswich Town and Southampton at Ashton Gate on March 24, was organized on Tuesday night by Lionel Smart, an FA councillor and a former City director, who hopes that it will raise £30,000.

Merrick and his colleagues—Garland, Tainton, Rodgers, Sweeney, Mann, Aitken and Marshall—forfeited their contracts, said to be worth almost £300,000 over the next two years, and are now free to join other clubs. Their decision comes at the end of a week of negotiations in which they were assisted by Gordon Taylor, the secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association.

Mr Taylor commented: "Considering the serious financial state of the club, we feel that the eight have been fairly protected. The financial terms, I believe, should be kept personal and private. There have been changes in the original offer and we have gone through many channels of discussion. The position has been looked at by all the other clubs in the country. We want to make sure that this does not happen again."

Although Halifax Town, Plymouth Argyle and Oxford United have all been similarly tottering on the brink of extinction this season, City's problem was caused primarily by players on first division wages being supported by a club receiving only third division gate receipts. Mr Taylor went on to hint at the solution.

"The PFA wants to preserve the game with 92 clubs in the Football League and the jobs of all our members", he said. "One of the first steps should be a regulated transfer market so that clubs do not have to take so much of a gamble." The League chairmen could, and should, take note of his message and act upon it at their meeting at Coventry in two weeks' time.

Chris Barlow, City's accountant, also sounded a note of warning to any supporters who may now become complacent. "It will have to be a substantial amount of money to save the club", he said. "I think we have a good chance of surviving, but we will just have to see how successful the share issue is and how the moratorium goes. It is not part of the agreement to dispose of the ground."

Mr Barlow confirmed that the new board would this morning take control of the subsidiary company, to be known as Bristol City Football Company (1982) Limited. The club, who were in the first division two years ago and are in danger of slipping down into the fourth in successive seasons, have total debts reported to be in excess of £1.5m. The only assets available to pay the unsecured creditors, who are owed £930,000, amount to only £78,000.

It was also announced yesterday that Martin Flook, a 37-year-old millionaire, had become virtually the owner of Bristol Rovers. Mr Flook, who joined the board 14 months ago and became chairman in December, bought out a minority holding of 30,000 shares from the Stevens family, who run the greyhound racing at Eastville. The purchase price was not disclosed.

☐ Peter Swales, the Manchester City chairman, yesterday called for restraint on players' wages.

He will put forward a four-point plan to the meeting of football league chairmen on February 21. It will call for: a maximum £400-a-week wage with further bonuses purely dependent upon gate receipts and match results; a lifting of the television restriction on shirt advertising; a maximum transfer limit; a much bigger cut for football from the pools organizations.

Grey suits match faces

By John Witherow

The plush Dragonara Hotel in Bristol was awash yesterday with ashen-faced football managers and tight-lipped players. Bristol City Football Club, poised on the brink of closure with debts of £1.5m, had just met a new deadline requiring most of the third division team to accept redundancy in a desperate attempt to reduce the club's wages bill.

The meeting at the hotel was called to try to resolve the dispute between the club and the eight players who had been asked to leave. Grey-suited accountants, businessmen and the club's 23 players, all refusing to comment, trooped in and out of the meeting or sat around in glum, silent huddles.

Even when it was announced that agreement had been reached at two minutes before noon, not one player said he was "over the moon". Most seemed aware they had won what might prove only a temporary stay of execution.

Guarded optimism about City's future was expressed by Gordon Taylor, secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, who handled the negotiations for the players. He was determined to ensure that the club would not be the first team to fold since Accrington Stanley disappeared 20 years ago.

Mr Taylor's solution for ending such financial shenanigans and the threat of closure to several clubs was a regulated transfer market for players based on age and earnings. "It's a South Sea bubble situation," he added.

"We have to start improving the image of the industry. If a club of the stature of Bristol City went under it would be a very unfortunate day for football."

Geoff Merrick, aged 31, told me: "There's got to be a certain amount of bitterness about the way this has been handled and a lot of emotion because I've had some great years with the club. I feel very numb. It's been a week I'd never envisaged and never thought I would be stuck here like this."

Dundee crisis

Dundee, who made a loss of over £250,000 last year, need public money in order to survive. The Scottish premier division club's loss followed a healthy profit of £67,277 the previous season.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern division: Hounslow v Welling United.

IRISH CUP: First round replay: Crusaders v Portadown (2.30).

MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP: Second round: Haringey Borough v Southall.

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Bradford Northern v Leigh.

Greaves's first day starts with a writ

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Wolverhampton Wanderers today face the future with a new manager and a writ. After they had appointed Ian Greaves yesterday afternoon, Robert Maxwell, the chairman of Mr Greaves's former club, Oxford United, confirmed that he would be taking legal action against both Mr Greaves for breach of contract and against Wolves for inducing him to leave Oxford.

Mr Maxwell's disappointment is understandable. A month ago he stepped in to save the ailing third division club by promising to fill their coffers with £120,000. His offer, which included meeting the club's financial commitments as they became due, was conditional on others, such as local commerce and industry, coming to the aid of the club as well.

The players themselves responded. They reached the fifth round of the FA Cup by beating Brighton, of the first division, at the Goldstone Ground on January 25. Mr Greaves himself described it as "a fairy story" and gave credit to the new benefactor.

When Mr Maxwell took over on January 7, his instructions to Mr Greaves were as simple as they were ambitious: "Get the club into the second division within two years", he said, "and stay there". On Saturday Oxford, who are currently 10 points behind the leaders, in ninth place and accustomed to taking on clubs in difficulty, play Newport County.

Mr Maxwell insists that Mr Greaves had a contract which "bound him until July, 1983. It was one of the reasons why I decided to join the board recently. I was confident that he would be staying with the club. This is a breach of the new agreement over managers. Unless he comes back and honours his agreement, until at least the end of the season, we shall have no alternative but to issue a writ."

Graham Kelly, the secretary of the Football League, confirmed that the wording of the "gentlemen's agreement", which the club chairmen approved at their meeting a year ago, stated that "no club should take another League club's manager during the playing season".

Harry Marshall, the chairman of Wolves, disagrees with his opposite number: "The job was vacant," he said yesterday, "and Ian Greaves, who said he was not under contract at Oxford, applied and was successful. I am delighted that we have made an appointment.

Mr Greaves would not comment on the threat of legal action but revealed that he had applied for the job at Wolves on Monday and that the whole affair had been settled on Monday afternoon. He did not sign until yesterday afternoon, a three-year contract that is understood to be worth £100,000. He succeeds John Barnwell, who was dismissed 25 days ago.

"What has gone on here at Molineux recently is club politics." Mr Greaves added. "I have no intention of becoming involved in that. I have got to assess the playing policy of the club as quickly as possible and get to grips with the present situation which exists here. I have been told that there is no money for new players and that I will have to sell to buy."

He watched Wolves lose to Arsenal at Highbury on Tuesday night. It was their thirteenth defeat of the season and keeps them lodged among the bottom three.

Mr Greaves, who made his first appearance for Manchester United at Molineux as a full back in 1954, added that he did not foresee any immediate changes in the backroom staff. It is thought, though, that he is likely to bring Roy Barry, his assistant at Oxford, with him to Wolves. That could cause another problem: Mr Barry was appointed yesterday as Oxford's acting manager and Mr Maxwell wants him to apply for the job when it is advertized.

Butcher rushed to hospital

Terry Butcher, Ipswich Town's England defender, was rushed from Ipswich Hospital to the London Hospital yesterday. Butcher, who broke his nose and suffered prolonged bleeding following a collision in the FA Cup tie at Luton, had an operation last week and was thought to be recovering well.

But on Tuesday night and again yesterday morning, the bleeding returned and Bobby Robson, the Ipswich manager, said: "He is on his ninth pint of blood since entering hospital 10 days ago so it has been decided to transfer him to London for more intensified specialist treatment and X-rays.

Rugby Union

English talent tempers Irishman's optimism

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Despite a victory over Wales, which he regards as the best Irish performance he has seen in a long time, and despite the absence of Bill Beaumont and perhaps of Peter Wheeler from opposing ranks on Saturday, Mike Gibson, the former outstanding Irish midfield player, considers that England must start favourites to win at Twickenham.

"But England will need to play very well," he says. "Ireland will make it very difficult for them if they can recapture the same inspiration. There was a great clamour for a return to the traditional Irish style, yet Ireland not only found the old fury against Wales but the control as well."

Gibson was surprised to see Welsh heads drooping so early in the second half in Dublin. "Our front five maintained the pressure throughout, and our loose trio were more than capable of coping with an easily identifiable threat from the Welsh halfbacks, who didn't get any clear support in attack from their own loose forwards", he said. "Behind it all, 'Ollie' Campbell did everything absolutely right in a beautifully measured performance. He was given some licence close in, but he still had to take his opportunities. His judgment was perfect.

"I never shared the view that we would start as underdogs against Wales, but always believed that England would present us with the greatest challenge this season. England these days are more ambitious, more expansive, with the talent to express themselves. Ireland have always thrived on mistakes by the opposition, and their present side has a lot of pace behind the scrummage, though England will need to be selective in their choice of ball to run. If things go well for Ireland up front, Campbell will keep them going forward and he and his backs will run, given half a chance."

Altogether, a man who arguably has been the greatest of midfield players finds it refreshing to contemplate what he may see from an England team no longer preoccupied with a limited, stultified approach, and from an Irish one not equipped for the driving game in the middle but relying on pace and skill.

He is impressed by the speed, fire and hardness of the new England flanker, Peter Winterbottom, believing that his occasional handling mistakes have not been due to an inbuilt weakness but rather to rushing things as he finds experience and confidence at the highest level. He likes the neatness of Huw Davies—"a man who tackles his weight, too"—but finds it hard to forgive him for the scissors that went awry at the climax of the Murrayfield match, preparing the way for the three points so foolishly given to Scotland.

"After absorbing that Scottish pressure, all England had to do was to kick the ball down the Scottish end, and invite them to score from 80 yards," he said. Gibson is full of praise for the new Irish captain, Ciaran Fitzgerald. "A leader of stature," he declares. "With a few more like him, the security of the Republic must be in safe hands."

In answer to his question about Maurice Colclough, I was able to assure him that the entrepreneur of Angoulême had stilled anxieties about his fitness when training in Stourbridge earlier this week. "A big plus for England, then", Gibson said. "He was magnificent against Australia".

Gibson: Enthusing about the Irish—and English.

Wales wait for Davies verdict

The Welsh captain, Gareth Davies, is not optimistic about his chances of being fit for Saturday's Rugby Union international with France at Cardiff Arms Park.

The half stand off hoping to lead his country for the third time, badly bruised a thigh in the 20—12 defeat by Ireland on January 23, and has been receiving treatment nearly every day since.

A final decision will be taken at today's squad training session.

☐ Leicester make four changes, three of them enforced, for Saturday's match with London Scottish at Welford Road. Peter Wheeler, Clive Woodward and Paul Dodge are on international duty and their places are taken by Brian Hall, Vendis Afflick and Chris Tressler. Nick Joyce is preferred at lock to Malcolm Foulkes-Arnold.

TEAM: W Hare; B Evans, B Hall, V Afflick, T Barnwell; L Dodson, N Youngs; J Deacon, C Tressler, S Redfern, N Gillingham, N Joyce, S Johnson (captain), A Collington, I Smith.

Sydney take advantage of weakened Cambridge

By Peter West

Cambridge U 6 Sydney U 15

Australia's inter-varsity champions hail from a club which is the oldest in their country, having been founded in 1863, and which has produced no fewer than 59 players to win full Wallaby honours. They won enough ball against a weakened Cambridge side at Grange Road yesterday afternoon to have won the game by 30 points or more.

But a robust and lively side, possessed of a skilful, mauling pack, too often marred their finishing with inaccurate distribution. They had to settle in the end for a comfortable win by a penalty goal and three tries to two penalty goals.

The prospects of a rather disjointed Cambridge XV, which included only four of those who won the 100th university match last December, were not improved when one of their Blues, the wing, Cooke, returned after repairs to a leg injury to be a virtual passenger in the later stages.

By then, Cooke had moved into the centre, where Wheelhouse had been replaced by Branson.

Although making almost all of the running, into the wind, in the first half, Sydney still had to turn round 6—3 behind. Their full back, Gordon, missed three kickable penalties before the centre, Vaux, was called up to score three points in reply to the two penalties landed by Hoskin for Cambridge.

In the second period, Sydney's scrum half, Farr-Jones, scored a try on the short side of a scrummage. The right wing, McCormack, got another when a rucked ball produced a generous overlap. The last score went to Gordon, who made the most of a big hole in the Cambridge centre.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: A K R Hampel (Marlborough and Downing); B O Roxburgh (Blundells and Sidney Sussex); M K Hoskin (Sterling and St Catharine's), A J Wheelhouse (Bradford GS and Jesus) (rep. D Branson, Cork GS and Girton), *S J Cooke (Stonyhurst and Magdalene); M P Breddy (Cheltenham CS and Fitzwilliam), R P Saunders (King Edward VI, Macclesfield, and Queens'); *C J Kinnston (Durham and Magdalene, captain), *J N Johnson (Bedford and Trinity), W Ng (The Leys and Trinity), D M Taylor (Reeds and Magdalene), *C W Biddell (Christ's Hospital and Magdalene), G T Fairbank (Felsted and St John's), I M Wilkinson (Bradford GS and Trinity), M Taylor (Sherborne and Queens').

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY: J P Gordon; J McCormack, D Vaux, J L Peterson (captain), M McCormick; P [illegible] N Farr-Jones; P Collins (rep. T Ryan), P Allaway, N Penolit, P Curran, G Clapham, B Bell, A Harper, J Curran.

Referee: K Hart (Cambridge).

* a Blue

☐ After last week's home defeat by Gosforth, Wasps shake up their pack for Saturday's match at Moseley. Huntsman is preferred at prop to Isichei and Leggett loses his place at flanker to Rigby.

Bath lay out the red carpet for Molly

By Alan Gibson

Bath 47 RAF 4

The best thing of the evening was to see Molly Gerrard, the widow of the great Ron Gerrard, and herself a former President of the Bath club, back in the company, upright and cheerful as ever, despite a serious illness from which she has recovered. It lightened everyone's heart to see Molly there again.

As for the match, the RAF are just beginning to warm up to their championship and were certainly warmed up by Bath last night. They did not really play too badly, for a side just beginning to put itself together—their back row forward, Ponting, had come all the way from Perthshire—but Bath were much too good for them. Bath won by five goals, two dropped goals, two tries and a penalty goal to a try.

The weather was cold and dry; there was not much wind. Bath were attacking from the start, but resolute tackling held them off until Horton, after 20 minutes, decided it was time to drop a goal. A few minutes later, Hall went over after a drive towards the post by the Bath forwards and Ralston made the conversion. Ralston then kicked a penalty and it was 12—0 to Bath at half-time.

In the second half, although the score does not reflect it, I thought the airmen got together rather better. Unfortunately for them, Bath did too. There was another dropped goal by Horton, and tries by Jackson, Jones, Rees, Horton and Simmons.

Horton's was a really marvellous one to watch, with four little jigs in it, three in and one out, and the poor defenders diving furiously, always in the wrong direction. Ralston made the conversions. The RAF did get a good try by Evans; he, the fly half, and the full back, Hearne showed some distinction from time to time but the RAF forwards did not look fit enough, nor interested enough, towards the end.

Perhaps those who play regularly in club rugby find these additional matches a bit of a bore. Nevertheless, the RAF have the talent, if they have not the determination, to make themselves a good side.

RAF: Cpl P Hearne; FO R Allison, Junior Tech P Boyle, SAC D Lazenby, Cpl A Fenlon; Cpl M Evans, Flight Lt G Munday; FO G McElroy, Sgt A Rust, Cpl M Whitcombe, Flight Lt M Copcoat, Flight Lt N Gillingham (captain), Cpl A Pond, Chief Tech J Ponting, Junior Tech J Orwin.

BATH: C Martin; P Simmons, A Rees, C Ralston, B Trevaskis; J Horton (captain), C Stanley; J Jackson, C Legg, R Lee, S Jones, R Matthews, D Barry, M Patching, J Hall.

Referee: M Peters (Somerset).

Price navigates away from danger

By Peter Marson

Oxford Univ 6 Royal Navy 16

The Royal Navy scored a decisive victory at Iffley Road yesterday, when they beat Oxford University by a try, a dropped goal and three penalty points to a goal. It was not an engagement of any great distinction, but the Navy, who lost narrowly to Cambridge University in their last outing, will have been much encouraged by the measure of command they achieved and the success which followed it.

The Navy's stand-off half, Price, stood four square on the bridge once again, and having launched his side with a neat dropped goal shortly after the start, it was he who guided the Navy away from danger, as the match drew to its conclusion, with two well-taken penalties.

Not that Oxford had offered much in any direction. Indeed, they had spent a full 80 minutes trying to work out a successful formula before a tapped penalty brought a try for Peck which Wyatt, left-footed, converted.

Oxford, who had beaten the Army 16—7 and, so it is said, thrashed the Royal Air Force 28—9, looked distinctly out of sorts. They were without their new captain, the Australian international, Crowe, who had been injured in a Cuppers match on Monday and among another four changes, three were outside the scrum.

Nor, apparently, did the university field a place-kicker. Luddington, the scrum half, failed at goal twice, and Wyatt, who was playing in the centre, once (right-footed).

By half-time, Tomlin's heavy armament had given the Navy a lead of six points with a penalty. Their forwards had played with mounting confidence and with Youldon and Price combining well the Navy's three-quarters, with Fabian and Newson enjoying their freedom, continually probed Oxford's defence. It was apt that Folland should round off one of their best movements with a try.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: M Parry (Campion and Balliol); G Saunders (University of Cape Town and Christ Church), J Coleman (St Edward's, Liverpool and University), *D Wyatt (Colchester and St Catherine's), C Ewart (St Edward's, Oxford, and St Edmund Hall); *C Millerchip (King Henry VIII, Coventry and Lincoln), *R S Luddington (KCS Wimbledon and St Edmund Hall); *M J Herrod (King Henry VIII, Coventry and St John's) M Kenny St Mary's, St Edmund Hall, A Abbott (Sydney University and Queen's), *J Searle (King's, Tynemouth and Hertford), Liverpool, and *G Hugo-Mainman (University of Cape Town and Jesus, captain), *N T Roberts (Glenalmond and Jesus) *A O Peck (Truro and Exeter), *A W Brooks (Plymouth College and Hertford).

ROYAL NAVY: Lt P D Tomlin; Lt T B Newson, Lt G Blackett, Lt-Commander G H Fabian (captain), Lt R M Penfold; Mem G A Price, CPO C Youldon; Lwtr J Hurst, AB R Joy, Lt J C Ackerman, Aem G Wood, CPO M J Lane, Po C Folland, Wea M Sheldon, P M H Connolly.

Referee: P Williams (Staffordshire).

*A Blue.

Ice skating

British 'Summertime' is judged to be perfect

From John Hennessy
Lyons, Feb 3

To say that Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean won the compulsory section of the European ice dance championships here tonight is to reduce Shakespeare to so much paper and ink. World champions though they are, the British couple reached even greater heights, especially with their original set pattern to a blues rhythm.

We have seen it before several times this year but with each new experience they achieve new emotional impact. A colleague in the press box, a German ice dancer of recent vintage, said: "It was like a dream. It made my flesh creep."

The British approach was in sharp contrast to that of other competitors, whose interpretation of the blues seemed to consist mainly of bump and grind. Miss Torvill and Dean, on the other hand, had reached back to the origin of the music, the sad deep South, and chosen Larry Adler's plaintive harmonica rendering of "Summertime" as their background.

What Adler did for Gershwin they now did for Adler, with a display of haunting emotional beauty. The audience were first enraptured and then ecstatic as the judges punched up a glowing tribute. Three of them awarded a full six, those from Britain, France and Austria. Never before had the British couple received more than 5.8 for an original set pattern in an international championship.

Nor was that all, for Karen Barber and Nicholas Slater, second in Britain, finished fourth in the compulsories, climbing above Olga Volozhinskaya and Alexander Svinin, as compared with last year's world championships. Wendy Sessions and Stephen Williams held ninth position, as last year. They had had legitimate hopes of something better.

Jean-Christophe Simond, carrying the burden of French national expectation, was a nervous figure in the men's short programme. He retained his lead, but by the merest whisker, a fifth of a point, from Igor Bobrin, last year's winner for the Soviet Union, and Norbert Schramm, of West Germany.

Since every placing in tomorrow's free skating is worth a full point, such a lead can rapidly disappear. It now seems that whoever of these three finishes highest tomorrow, will take the title.

MEN'S SHORT PROGRAMME: 1, J C Simond (France) [illegible] 2, N Schramm (WG) [illegible] 3, R [illegible] 4, A Fadeyev [illegible] 5, I Bobrin (USSR) [illegible] British placing: [illegible] M Pepperday [illegible]

AFTER TWO EVENTS: 1, Simond, [illegible] 2, Bobrin and Schramm, 3.2; [illegible] and H Fischer (WG) [illegible] British placing: [illegible]

PAIRS: Short programme: 1, I Vorobyeva and I Lisovski (USSR), 0.4; 2, S Baess and T Thierbach (EG) [illegible] 3, [illegible] Pestova and S Leonovich (USSR) [illegible] British placing: 6, S Garland and I Jenkins [illegible]

ICE DANCE COMPULSORIES: 1, Miss J Torvill and C Dean (GB), [illegible] 2, Miss N Bestemianova and A Bukin (USSR), 18, 2.0; [illegible] Miss I Moiseyeva and A Minenkov [illegible] 4, Miss K Barber and N Slater (GB) [illegible] Miss [illegible] and S Williams, 18. [illegible]

England start well

Bombay, Feb 3.—England made a very promising start in the men's and women's team events on the first day of the Commonwealth table tennis championships here today.

In group B of the men's competition, England, three times champions, had 5—0 victories over Sri Lanka and Kenya. England's women won both their group B matches, against Pakistan and Scotland, 3—0.—Reuter.

BOMBAY: Commonwealth championships: [illegible]

Golf

Nicklaus teams up with former US President

From John Ballantine
Monterey, Feb 3.

Johnny Miller and Jack Nicklaus resume their current rivalry in the Bing Crosby National Pro-Am which starts here on the three courses of Pebble Beach, Cypress Point and Spyglass Hill tomorrow.

The title holder, a Californian, John Cook as well as Tom Watson, the winner in 1977 and 1978, George Burns (1980), Ben Crenshaw (1976) and other players in form like Tom Kite, Tom Weiskopf and Raymond Floyd may also have something to say about Sunday's finish after the 168 professionals and their "celebrity" partners complete the round of the three great courses and return to Pebble Beach for the final round.

The "celebrity" field consisting of leading pros with well known personalities of politics and show business, are kept together and start tomorrow at Cypress. Nicklaus, who previously had businessmen as his team mates, partners the former United States President Gerald Ford (13 handicap)

The great "Arnie" is not entered and the inference is that he is a bit put out by being thus discarded. Nicklaus may well have to make amends by playing in Palmer's own event, the Bay Hill Classic in Orlando, Florida on March 4-7.

Nick Faldo plays Pebble Beach tomorrow with the former Wimbledon champion, Bob Falkenburg (6 handicap) while Peter Oosterhuis is out on Spyglass Hill with a British businessman, John Archer (11 handicap).

Tupling wants action replay

Lagos, Feb 3.—Peter Tupling, of Britain, will be hoping for a repeat of his 1981 form when he begins his defence of the Nigerian open championship at the Ikoyi Club tomorrow.

Tupling, aged 31, won the title last year with a world record aggregate of 255, 29 under-par, after rounds of 63, 66, 62, 64, but he faces tough competition from his fellow countrymen, David Jagger and Bill Longmuir, both double winners of the Nigerian open.—Reuter.

Simmons leads in Sun City

Sun City, Feb 3.—Phil Simmons headed a South African charge in the first round of the Sun City classic in Bophuthatswana today. He had birdies on the three opening holes on his way to a three-under par 69.

LEADING SCORES: 69: P Simmons. 70: T Claassens, G Levenson, H Henning, N Price (Zimbabwe), B Langer (WG), Mark Adcock (GB). 71: M Bright, J Bland, G Player, G Harvey, D Feherty (Ireland), D Curtis (US), C Bolling (GB). 72: [illegible] Hayes, S Torrance (GB), N James (GB), A Johnstone, I Mosey (GB), [illegible]

For the record

Rackets

SCHOOLS MATCH: Wellington (T Mallinson and C D'Ogly) beat Haileybury (J Dawes and S Miller), 8—15, 15—12, 15—10, 8—15, 7—15, 18—10, 17—14.

Cresta Run

ST MORITZ: Inter-services championship, Prince Philip Trophy: 1, Royal Navy 702.40; 2, Royal Air Force 716.05; 3, Army 730.85. Lord Trenchard Trophy: Lt A C Usborne (RN) 173.86. Auty Speed Cup: Lt Usborne 67.26. Harland Trophy: Lt J E Martin Smith (rtd).

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Quebec Nordiques 8, Colorado Rockies 7; New York Islanders 7, Washington Capitals 6; St Louis Blues 10, Winnipeg Jets 6; Montreal Canadiens 5, Calgary Flames 3; Hartford Whalers 5, Los Angeles Kings 5; New York Rangers 4, Vancouver Canucks 3.

Basketball

KORAC CUP: Quarter-final, group D, sixth series: EFES Pilsen (Turkey) 90, Tours (France) 87.

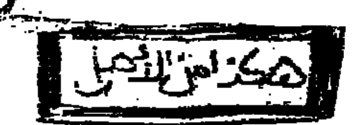
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Detroit Pistons 105, Atlanta Hawks 105; Boston Celtics 109, Indiana Pacers 102; Cleveland Cavaliers 100, Washington Bullets 99; San Antonio Spurs 103, Dallas Mavericks 98; New Jersey Nets 116, Chicago Bulls 112; Houston Rockets 122, San Diego Clippers 106; Denver Nuggets 128, New York Knicks 117; Golden State Warriors 119, Los Angeles Lakers 117; Portland Trail Blazers 102, Kansas City Kings 97.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final: Cibona Zagreb 98, Hapoel Ramat-Gan (Israel) 97.

TV World Cup plans

First round matches in the world cup this summer will not be shown at the same time on BBC and ITV. The coverage will be as follows:

June 15: Scotland v New Zealand (ITV). 16: England v France (BBC). 17: N Ireland v Yugoslavia (ITV). 18: Scotland v Brazil (BBC). 20: England v Czechoslovakia (ITV). 21: N Ireland v Honduras (ITV) [illegible] Scotland v [illegible] 25: England v Kuwait (ITV). 25: N Ireland v Spain (BBC).



Faces to follow: two school friends in search of the same squash title

Island girls taking to the world stage

As a segment of the sporting entertainment industry, squash has moved into a period of radical change. There are two new world champions, Jahangir Khan and Rhonda Thorne. Australian men and British women are prominent among the young challengers. Moreover, a dream that has recurred for almost 50 years — a "fish-tank" court with every wall transparent — is at last acquiring substance.

The coming men include such players as Glen Brumby, Chris Dittmar and Ricki Hill, all Australians; Stuart Davenport (New Zealand), Christy Willstrop (Britain) and Zahir Hussein Khan and Sohail Qaiser (Pakistan). Even Jahangir is only 18.

Among the women, the charge of the bright brigade is being led by players from the land where squash was born. Lisa Opie, aged 18, and Martine le Moignan, 19, rank third and fifth in the world on current form yet must be weary of such domestic rivals as Ruth Strauss, Alison Cumings, Suzanne Burgess and Paula Anderson — plus Susan Devoy (New Zealand) and Wendy Williams (Australia).

The extraordinary thing about two of the most remarkable teenagers in British sport is that Miss Opie and Miss le Moignan were born in the same hospital, went to the same infants, junior and senior schools, received their squash educations at the same club, and have since reinforced the Guernsey-born squash colony established in Nottingham by the brothers John and Richard le Lievre.

The girls finished school in the same class — and still are. "We have always been squash rivals," Miss Opie says, "and that has really helped us. We have brought each other along."

Miss Opie was the first to take up squash. She set an example and has usually been the front runner. Miss le Moignan was the first to go to Nottingham, where she blossomed and briefly moved ahead. Often, too, she showed Miss Opie (whose level of performance was more constant) how more highly ranked players could be beaten. Each has been stimulated by the other.






Miss Le Moignan (left) and Miss Opie: bringing each other along

The coincidence of their lives and careers is, on second thoughts, no more extraordinary than the fact that they come from an offshore island where 10 squash courts serve a population of about 50,000. Reg Harbour, who has coached both at the six-court King's Club up the hill from St Peter Port, disguises his pride behind a modest disclaimer about the quality of a development scheme for which he could take most of the credit. "They don't show how good the system is here. They show how bad the system is over there" (on the British Mainland).

Gavin Dupré of Jersey, a Scottish international who coaches in Hamburg has been Miss Opie's mentor for the past two years. Hamburg is expensively distant but Miss Opie has financial backing from Guinness Mahon, merchant bankers in Guernsey, and also has a clothing and equipment contract with Ascot and a contract to wear Patrick shoes. "Last year I found that I could support myself fairly well but I think only about the top five women in the world can do that by playing rather than coaching."

Miss Opie's name is Cornish but her father was born in Guernsey, her mother in Jersey. They have a pottery in the secluded Moulin Huet Valley. The competitive streak may come from Mrs Opie, who represented the Channel Islands at table tennis in the Cardiff Commonwealth Games.

But it was Miss Opie's father who introduced her to squash, first in a casual way at Elizabeth College (which then had the only court on the island) and next at King's, which opened in 1973 when Miss Opie was 11 years old. The Opies joined the club under the family membership scheme.

Unusually, squash had been Miss Opie's only game: "I went to a convent school and didn't play many sports until I was about 12 — and by that time I was into squash. They always wanted me to play team games but I didn't have time to practice. I was always playing squash." By contrast Miss le Moignan's middle teens were embellished by the Channel Islands' junior 1,500 metres record and junior tennis championship.

Miss le Moignan's father, a freelance architect, is a competitive yachtsman with world championship experience and a former Channel Islands champion as a racing cyclist. But it was her mother who first joined King's: "I got hooked on squash," Mrs le Moignan says, "and they got tired of waiting for meals and decided to join."

Sporting, competitive parents naturally wanted results in return for the cost of helping the girls to further their squash careers. For a time Miss le Moignan resented the stress on winning but later she found a similar driving force within herself. She was slower to mature than Miss Opie and her adolescent shyness lasted longer but eventually the strength of her character emerged.

Life could hardly be anything but easy-going in the leafy Moulin Huet Valley. Miss Opie and her sister, Karla — aged 16 and powerfully talented on a squash court or on horseback, but more desultory than Lisa — both grew up quickly and became easy mixers, capable of making their own decisions. Even now Miss Opie may be mentally stronger than Miss le Moignan.

All this, together with Miss Opie's earlier introduction to squash and her greater tolerance for training and practice, may explain her present slight supremacy. The potter's daughter is 10 months the younger and also the smaller. She is 5ft 4½in tall and, without pretending that she can always make the weight, reckons that "nine stone is about right for me." Miss le Moignan is 5ft 9in and more than a stone heavier, though hardly a pound of it is surplus.

"I was always being told that I didn't have enough fight in me," Miss Opie says "but in 1981 I got a lot tougher." Last October, in Ottawa, she beat Miss le Moignan in the final of the world junior championship. They moved on to Toronto and finished fourth and sixth respectively in the world open championship. In December, at Wembley, Miss Opie won the British national

Nine weeks hence one or the other may already be good enough to become the first British player since Francesca Marshall, in 1961, to win the British open championship.

Rex Bellamy

Racing

Ekbalco sale denied

By Michael Seely

Roger Fisher, the Lake District trainer, denied rumours yesterday that he had sold his half share in Elbalco, and that John Francome had been invited to replace David Goulding on the problem horse in the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham.

Ekbalco has been heavily backed both for the Schweppes Gold Trophy and the Champion Hurdle after his eye-catching late run in the Irish Sweep Hurdle at Leopardstown on Saturday where he finished sixth, only just over four lengths behind the winner, For Auction.

Ekbalco was virtually tailed off turning into the short straight at Leopardstown and made up an immense amount of ground to reach his final position. But Fisher said yesterday that both himself and his joint owner, Sheik Tawfik Fakhouri, are reluctant to disturb the partnership that has been struck up between Ekbalco and Goulding.

Fisher went on "We do feel, however, that now Ekbalco has been raised in class and is carrying big weights in handicaps he should lie closer to the pace in the early stages. But Goulding will definitely ride Ekbalco in the Schweppes and, all going well, in the Champion as well."

STATE OF GOING (official) Lingfield: chase, heavy; hurdles, soft. Towcester: good. Tomorrow: Kelso: good to soft. Kempton: good to soft.

Ayr is the likely target for Little Owl

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Jim Wilson, the rider and joint-owner of Little Owl, yesterday scotched rumours that all is not well with the horse that he inherited from his aunt and shares with his brother and rode to that famous victory in the Cheltenham Gold Cup, last March. In the circumstances, the 8-1 that the William Hill Organization are currently prepared to lay against Little Owl winning the same coveted trophy again next month could not be a bad bet.

Talking at Windsor, Wilson assured me that Little Owl will be seen in action again next week, either at Ascot on Wednesday or at Newbury or Ayr, three days later. "And the way the wind is blowing at present the probability is that it will be at Ayr" he said. After that, the plan is to run Little Owl in the Greenall Whitley Brewery Steeplechase, at Haydock Park on March 6, and it is intended that that race will put the final edge on him before he visits the National Hunt festival again.

Otherwise, the main news yesterday concerned two horses whose names are likely to feature on many short lists for the Grand National. I refer to Aldaniti and Uncle Bing. Looking fit and tanned after his recent holiday in the West Indies, Aldaniti's trainer, Josh Gifford, confirmed that last year's Natonal hero is also fit and well, and still on course to have his first race since Aintree in the Whitbread Trial Steeplechase at Ascot next Wednesday.

Richard Head also envisages running Uncle Bing, another to have conquered Aintree in his time — he won the Topham Trophy — at Ascot, but not at the next meeting. Having been off the course with leg trouble for 22 months, Uncle Bing came back "better than expected, like a lion in fact", to quote his trainer, after his race at Cheltenham last Saturday.

Head intends running Uncle Bing just twice before his big date at Aintree and the first of those races is now likely to be the Jock Scott Handicap Steeplechase at Ascot on February 22 when the Lambert and Butler final will be the main race.

As far as the actual racing was concerned at Windsor yesterday, the limelight was shared by Steve Knight, Richard Linley and Vince McKevitt.

Although he is often just regarded as Andy Turnell's understudy at Ogbourne, Steve Knight is a very accomplished jockey indeed, a point that he made when he won the Copper Horse Handicap Hurdle on Party Miss and the Oakside Novices Handicap Steeplechase on Better Than Ever.

Nampara was the equally-experienced Linley's first ride and first winner since he dislocated a shoulder a fortnight ago. But for sheer style, there was nothing to match McKevitt's handling of Play The Knave in the Haigh Whisky Novices Hurdle qualifier and that is saying something considering that he is still entitled to claim a 7lb allowance. That allowance made all the difference between defeat and victory as McKevitt pounced on Ro's Owen, and Bob Champion, close home.

McKevitt had been told by Play The Knave's trainer, Peter Bailey, to bide his time and delay his challenge as long as possible. He could not have carried out those instructions more perfectly.

At Lingfield today, Glenhawk will be attempting to win his second race there this year when he runs in the Felcourt Handicap Steeplechase, but I am inclined to doubt whether he will manage to beat either Another Duke or Galileo.

The Goldstone Novice's Steeplechase looks a suitable opportunity for Roddy Armytage's eight-year-old Applalto to win his second steeplechase.

Lingfield Park programme

1.45 HEDDON HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £989: 2m) (13)

101 0-10314 SILCAKEY (D) (O McDowell) D Elsworth 5-11-10 ... C Brown
104 40/2- AMMAN (Mrs D Smith) A Smith 6-11-0 ... T Heeney 7
105 p4-0p0p BROGUE (K Higson) A Moore 6-11-0 ... G Moore 4
107 20p/00p FRIMLEY TOWN (Mrs C Leather) V Soane 6-11-0 ... V Soane
110 £00 KINGMON'S GIRL (J King) J Long 5-11-0 ... Mr P Nicholls 7
111 p00-0 MY BOY BOY (Miss J Kennedy) H O'Neill 6-11-0 ... G Mc Court
112 0-000pp REBELDE (D Mills) D Mills 6-11-0 ... A Madgwick 7
113 2/4000-0 RENDEZVOUS (N Upson) J Long 6-11-0 ... P Upson
114 0002-00 TESTON LAD (Mrs B Mitchell) Pat Mitchell 5-11-0 ... J Francome
116 40 KING'S GLORY (C Heard) P Mitchell 4-10-0 ... R G Hughes
117 000 LOW TIDE (C Gillingham) Mrs D Oughton 4-10-0 ... R Rowe
119 401000 SUFFIELD PARK (S Guzzan) C Drew 4-10-0 ... S McNeill
120 23 THAUMATURGE (K Abdulla) R Smyth 4-10-0 ... A Webber

4-6 Silcakey, 4 King's Glory, 7 Thaumaturge, Suffield Park, 12 Amman, 20 others.

2.15 GODSTONE CHASE (Novices: £1,688: 3m) (7)

202 40f-331 APPLALTO (D) (Miss N Carroll) R Armytage 8-11-5 ... A Webber
203 p03321 DROPS O'BRANDY (Mrs C Fairbairn) J Edwards 7-11-5 ... P Warner
209 p0bp-00 DUKE WILLIAM (R Voorspuy) R Voorspuy 8-11-0 ... J Lovejoy 7
210 2p0/pp EVEN LADY (Mrs J French) Mrs J French 11-11-0 ... Mrs S Fench
213 2f-04pp PRIDE OF BARNES (J Lewis) Mrs D Oughton 7-11-0 ... C Kinane
214 000-00f ROMAN BISTRO (D Martin-Betts) J Gifford 6-11-0 ... R Rowe
216 00/0-uf STORM PRINCE (B) (Mrs A Lacey) I Dudgeon 7-11-0 ... G McCourt

4-5 Applalto, 5-2 Drops O'Brandy, 6 Roman Bistro, 8 Pride of Barnes, 14 Storm Prince.

2.45 WORTH WOOD HURDLE (4-y-o novices: selling: £704: 2m) (12)

301 000 DERRING PRINCE (V Waller) P Mitchell 10-7 ... R G Hughes
302 00 END OF ERA (Miss W Redman) J Jenkins 10-7 ... M Harrington 4
303 FLASH BUNNY (Mrs G Davison) A Davison 10-7 ... —
304 0 GOLDEN GINGER (Mrs M Maslen) M Madgwick 10-7 ... A Madgwick 7
306 HIGH BONNIE (D Elsworth) D Elsworth 10-7 ... C Brown
308 0f2 MARSHGATE (M Wetherill) D Marks 10-7 ... M O'Halloran
311 OLD HOLLOW (D Marshall) A Ingham 10-7 ... Steve Kight
312 0p0 PAWS AND JAWS (P Hampshire) H O'Neill 10-7 ... M Hammond 7
313 0p4 REDESIGN (M Jones) T Marshall 10-7 ... J Davies 7
315 000 SIR GIVENCHY (Mrs J Dunlop) W Musson 10-7 ... A Coogan
316 000 SWIFT STEP (B) (D Thorne) G Balding 10-7 ... R Linley
317 000 TOBERJOVIC (T Flood) A Davison 10-7 ... R Rowe

2 Sir Givenchy, 11-4 Redesign, 4 Marshgate, 7 End of Era, 10 Derring Prince, 12 High Bonnie, 20 others.

3.15 FELCOURT CHASE (Handicap: £1,834: 3m) (6)

403 f3-2112 ANOTHER DUKE (D) (W Pilkington) J Gifford 9-10-13 ... R Rowe
404 112-2f1 GLENHAWK (CD) (Express Newspapers) H Price 6-10-7 (4 ex) ... C Gwilliam 4
405 31-1103 GALILEO (C) (Miss S Thomson) R Armytage 7-10-6 ... A Webber
406 111/pff INTERSTATE (D) (J Robinson) A Davison 9-10-2 ... —
408 1fb-00f MR GUMBOOTS (Mrs J Hambro) N Gaselee 8-10-0 ... R Linley
411 030p-04 RATHLEK (CD) (D Greig) D Greig 12-10-0 ... P Barton

6-4 Another Duke, 5-2 Glenhawk, 3 Galileo, 8 Rathlek, 12 Mr Gumboots, 25 Inter State.

3.45 EDENBRIDGE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,061: 2m) (11)

501 140-400 BUFFOON (P Eaton D Elsworth 7-11-10 ... J Davies
503 10-0440 MOUNTAIN MONARCH (CD) (M Bryant) S Woodman 5-11-2 ... A Madgwick 7
504 p00211 BASH STREET KID (M Raphael) R Hoad 7-11-1 ... A Small 7
505 0/0 WHINNEY BRAE (G Kindersley) G Kindersley 8-11-0 ... N Dunger 7
507 023002 SPIKEY BILL (R Cheetham) P Mitchell 5-10-12 ... M Lynn
511 000000 ASHLEIGH BOY (G Martin) R Hoad 5-10-7 ... M Richards
513 3004/00 ROBERT ADAM (D Eaning) Pat Mitchell 7-10-7 ... —
514 f00-004 FRONT DESK (C Cyzer) C Cyzer 5-10-7 ... —
515 232210 MISS METRO (D) (mrs D Drew) C Drew 5-10-7 ... R Stronge
516 432120 MANAWA (D) (P Hawken) A Davison 6-10-7 ... —
517 00p-020 SUMMERCOVE (D) (K Higson) A Moore 6-10-7 ... M Perrett 7

9-4 Mountain Monarch, 3 Bash Street Kid, 9-2 Miss Metro, 6 Manawa, Spikey Bill, 10 Summercove, 20 others.

4.15 HEDDON HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £998: 2m) (13 runners)

601 033111 DU MAURIER (D) (A Aylett) A Aylett 9-12-1 ... M Harrington 4
604 0f/ CHESTNUT LODGE (R Alderman) R Atkins 6-11-0 ... R Atkins
605 00f/2 CHEVINGTON (P Hopkins) J Gifford 5-11-0 ... R Rowe
607 0-pp0p0 ICATO (K Higson) A Moore 6-11-0 ... G Moore 4
608 KINGS THESEUS (Miss Previte) C James 6-11-0 ... G McNally
609 LAFRAK LADY (Mrs V O'Brien) J Long 5-11-0 ... Mr P Nicholls 7
610 04020 MARSTAIN (G W Martin Ltd) R Hoad 5-11-0 ... R Goldstein
613 0 PIANOSO (Mrs E Richards) H O'Neill 5-11-0 ... DOUBTFUL
614 0 SEEMS A NICE BOY (R Wise) B Wise 5-11-0 ... R Rowell
617 0000 CHARJEM (A Moore) A Moore 4-10-0 ... M Perrett 7
618 042 JADE AND DIAMOND (C Freud) D Elsworth 4-10-0 ... C Brown
620 0323 SIGIR (D Chisholm) P Mitchell 4-10-0 ... R G Hughes
622 400 WARILY (K Abdulla) R Smyth 4-10-0 ... A Webber

6-4 Du Maurier, 3 Sigir, 9-2 Jade and Diamond, 5 Chevington, 10 Warily, 12 Marstain, [illegible]

Lingfield Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.45 Silcakey. 2.15 Applalto. 2.45 Marshgate. 3.15 Another Duke. 3.45 Whinney Brae. 4.15 Du Maurier.

Towcester programme

1.30 MARSTON HURDLE (div 1: novices: £552: 2m) (18 runners)

1 0 BEACON BOY (Mrs M Wilson) M Tompkins 6-11-7 ... G Enwright
5 00 GIN GAME (S Spokes) M Tate 5-11-7 ... R Hyett
8 0-04 HASTY STORM (Mrs G Brazier) F Winter 5-11-7 ... J Francome
9 3 HOT MATCH (Dr J Hernandez) G P Gordon 5-11-7 ... S Smith-Eccles
15 0 MY SUSIE GIRL (W Davison) R Baker 5-11-7 ... A Holder 7
16 0p OUR FANCY (P Mann) P Mann 5-11-7 ... Mr P Mann 7
17 0 PIANOSO (B) (Mrs E Richards) H O'Neill 5-11-7 ... P Blacker
18 40 PINCENTS (Styles Ahead) R Holder 8-11-7 ... P Richards
19 00 QUEEN'S EQUERRY (Essex Drawing Equipment) A Ingham 5-11-7 ... S O'Neill 7
20 00 SHEPERION (B Peacock) W Wharton 5-11-7 ... S O'Neill
22 00 SOLBIRD (S Hoddinott) G Thorner 5-11-7 ... R Kington
26 00 BLACK PENNY (R Granville-Webb) J Old 4-10-7 ... R Champion
27 0 Double Revenge (N Stephens) J Spearing 4-10-7 ... S Johnson 4
28 EL CUBANO (G Yarrow) M Hinchcliffe 4-10-7 ... M O'Halloran
30 430b LAWNSWOOD MISS (A Hill) R Hollinshead 4-10-7 ... C Astbury
31 034 LOWNDES COURT (N Robertson) M Chapman 4-10-7 ... P Dever 7
33 00 MY CHALLENGE (Mrs D Stockill) K Bridgwater 4-10-7 ... B Crank
34 000 REMMS (J Wilson) G Harman 4-10-7 ... P Charlton

Evens Hasty Storm, 9-4 Hot Match, 6 Lowndes Court, 10 Pincents, 12 Gin Game, 14 others.

2.0 DENTON CHASE (Novices handicap:) £1,081: 2m 5f 110yd) (14)

2 uf1fu3 SUPERBREAKS (S Lanaway) J Gifford 8-11-12 ... R Champion
5 32-030f LEADING ARTIST (B) (Mrs W Eykyn) N Gaselee 7-11-3 ... V McKevitt 7
6 0-00104 PHIL THE FLUTER (R Poppleton) H Wharton 7-11-2 ... S Smith-Eccles
8 0-10200 SPARTAN CLOWN (H Hutsby) D Nicholson 6-11-1 ... P Scudamore
10 220-4 PORT ASKAIG (Lord Chelsea) T Forster 7-10-12 ... J Francome
11 0032/0u YALU (B) (Capt J Norris) K Bailey 9-10-11 ... A Webb
16 00b-03 TULLAGOREY (Anne Duchess of Westminster) T Forster 8-10-5 ... H Davies
19 4400-p0 BUSKRILLAGH (P Waring) R Perkins 11-10-4 ... S Keightley 4
20 00-5322 HENFOLD LAD (B) (A Wates) A Wates 6-10-3 ... B De Haan
21 f000-34 BELLINGHAM (G Mytton) D Ancil 8-10-2 ... A Turnell
22 100-434 GAME BID (Mrs M Bonnion) Rex Carter 8-10-2 ... Mr W Bennion
23 4pp020 YELLOW COLL (Miss J Horwood) J Bosley 9-10-2 ... A webb
24 00-2300 ROYAL ANTLER (Mrs R Haggie) J Fitzgerald 9-10-2 ... —
26 030000 CUTTING COMMENT (B) (J Harrison) M James 7-10-0 ... P Coldwell 7

2 Henfold Lad, 3 Superbreaks, 9-2 Port Askaig, 6 Game Bid, 8 Tullagorey, 10 Phil the Fluter, 14 others.

2.30 ROTHERSTHORPE CHASE (Handicap: £1,060: 2m 50yd) (12)

2 /42022- SYDNEY QUIN (CD) (W Kelly) W Kelly 10-12-0 ... Mr P Webber
3 01f14-0 MOONSHOT (CD) (C MacSwiney) T Forster 8-12-0 ... H Davies
4 10-0023 FALKLAND PALACE (A Else) D Morley 5-11-9 ... —
5 2-00000 BULGADEN (G Reines) H Wharton 8-11-6 ... P Tuck
6 40-041p PIPE BAND (D Tranter) P Bevan 8-11-4 ... J Francome
8 032001 RHEINRAY (H O'Neill) H O'Neill 7-11-12 (10 ex) ... P Blacker
9 100p40 DOWNPAYMENT (Mrs S Crowe) M Bolton 8-11-1 ... —
10 21u0-pf RUBBER LEGS (K Read) W Marshall 8-11-0 ... S Smith-Eccles
12 04-0005 VARDES (K Britten) J Old 8-10-9 ... C Candy
13 00-4uuf WRECKIT (Kesteven Castings Ltd) P Felgate 7-10-6 ... S O'Neill
14 ppp-pp RUGAN WONDER (F Coton) F Coton) 8-10-0 ... M Stevenson 7
15 0120u0 GENTLE ROSE (Safety in Construction Ltd) M Chapman 11-10-0 ... P dever 7

9-4 Falkland Place, 3 Rheinray, 4 Pipe Band, 11-2 Moonshot, 7 Gentle Rose, 12 Sydney Quin, 14 others.

3.0 MILL HOUSE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,113: 2m 5f 26yd) (21)

[illegible]

Towcester Selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.30 Hasty Storm. 2.0 Henfold Lad. 2.30 Moonshot. 3.0 Merciless King. 3.30 Bright Beacon. 4.0 Bold Count.

Hereford results

Going: good

12 15 (12.18) NEW SEASON CHASE (Div I: Maiden Hunters: £451: 2½m)

[illegible]

Windsor

Going: soft

2.0 (2.0) HOLYPORT HURDLE (Selling handicap: £564: 2m 30yd)

LITTLE TYRANT b g. Tyrant—Tedoma (C Francis) 5-10-1 P Corrigan (10-1) 1

[illegible]

3.30 (3.31) HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (£961: 2m 30yd)

PLAY THE KNAVE b g by Raise you Ten — Va Beni (C. de P. Berry) 5-10-13 M. McKevitt (5-4 fav) 1
Ro's Owen ... R. Champion (7-2) 2
Stephen Langton ... Turnell (8-1) 3

TOTE: Win 33p. Places 12p, 23p, 15p. Dual f: 32p. CSF 77p. P. Bailey at Salisbury.

[illegible]

Law Report February 4 1982

Court of Appeal

When council's housing duty is not discharged

Regina v Wyre Borough Council, Ex parte Parr and Another
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Donaldson
[Judgment delivered February 3]

A housing authority only discharged their duty under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977, of securing that accommodation became available for the occupation of an applicant if the accommodation offered was appropriate to the applicant having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

The Court of Appeal, allowing an appeal by applicants Mr Michael Parr and Mrs Mavis Mary Parr, of Fleetwood, Lancashire, from a decision of Mr Justice Phillips, granted the applicants an order of mandamus requiring Wyre Borough Council to carry out their duty to house them under section 4(5) of the 1977 Act.

Section 4(5) provides: "Where (a) [a housing authority] are satisfied (i) that [an applicant] is homeless, and (ii) that he has a *priority need, but* (b) they are not satisfied that he became homeless intentionally, their duty ... is to secure that accommodation becomes available for his accommodation".

Mr Jack Price, QC, and Mr John Townend for the applicants; Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, and Mr Graham Stoker for the borough council.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mr Parr lived in Fleetwood until the age of 25. He was in the Army for three years, then went to live in Nottingham. He married, and there were now five children aged between 12 years and 18 months.

In July, 1981, the family were threatened with eviction, so they got a motor caravan, drove to Fleetwood, where Mr Parr had some sisters, and parked the caravan on the promenade. They applied for accommodation under the 1977 Act. The housing authority turned them down on the ground that they had "shelter/accommodation in keeping with their chosen mode of living". They could go on living in the caravan, and so were not homeless.

The applicants applied for judicial review of that refusal. Mr Justice Woolf gave leave to apply, limited to the question whether the authority could properly have come to the conclusion that the applicants were not homeless. But a week or so before the hearing date, the authority changed their mind.

They wrote a letter on October 19 saying "housing accommodation has been secured for you and your family with Birmingham District Council at the request of the authority". They claimed that by that letter they had discharged their duty under section 4(5) of the Act.

When the case came before Mr Justice Phillips, he saw what a muddle it had got into. He gave the applicants leave to amend, so that they could seek a declaration that the authority's purported performance of their duty under the Act was invalid, but he refused the application.

He said that if the matter were appealed, the parties should sign a supplementary statement of facts setting out all that had happened. Unfortunately that had not been done.

There had been much discussion as to whether a housing authority could fulfil their duty by saying to a person living away up in the North, that accommodation was available in Birmingham. The applicants had local connexions with Fleetwood and Nottingham but none with Birmingham.

The authority contended that they had discharged their duty under section 4(5), as amplified by section 6(1), which provided: "A housing authority may perform any duty under section 4 or 5 above to secure that accommodation becomes available for the occupation of a person ... (b) by securing that he obtains accommodation from some other person ...". They referred to *R v Bristol City Council, Ex parte Browne* ([1979] 1 WLR 1437).

That case was wholly distinguishable. The housing authority were wrong in the first place to say that the applicants were not homeless. The applicants were therefore entitled to ask for judicial review.

It was no answer for the authority to say that they had carried out their obligations by the letter of October 19. The accommodation offered had to be appropriate — not only as to the house itself, as to which the court had no evidence, but also as to other factors such as the nature of the area and whether employment prospects were suitable for the applicant. The letter of October 19 was not sufficient to manifest an offer of appropriate accommodation — the circumstances were too uncertain and equivocal.

A further point was that, reading between the lines of the code of guidance issued by the Secretary of State which had some statutory authority, the wishes of the applicant were one of the things to be taken into account if it was proposed to send him to an area far distant from that where he had a local connexion. The wishes of Mr and Mrs Parr had not been taken into account.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH, concurring, said that it would be wrong to deny the applicants the remedy to which they would undoubtedly have been entitled on the ground that the authority, at the eleventh hour, claimed to have fulfilled their duty. In that state of doubt, the order of manamus should be made.

LORD JUSTICE DONALDSON, also concurring, said that it was agreed on all sides that the accommodation offered did not have to be in the authority's area. But the judge was not in a position to know whether the Birmingham accommodation was appropriate — he did not have the facts. The appeal should be allowed for the reasons given.

Solicitors: Hugh Pond & Co, Blackpool; Mr A. K. B. Boatswain, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire,

Chancery Division

No tax liability on trustees' allocation of assets

Bond (Inspector of Taxes) v Pickford
Before Mr Justice Nourse
[Judgment delivered February 3]

Trustees who executed deeds allocating certain trust assets to be held on new trusts in favour of specified beneficiaries, were not to be deemed to have disposed of those assets and thus did not become liable to any capital gains tax in respect of them. The effect of the deeds was not to create separate settlements of the allocated funds and thus the deeming provisions of section 25 (3) of the Finance Act 1965 could not be applied to impose any liability to the tax.

Mr Justice Nourse dismissed an appeal by the Crown and upheld a determination of the special commissioners that had discharged assessments to the tax for 1971-72 of £35,349 and for 1972-73 of £214,817 made on Mr D. M. Pickford, a trustee of a settlement made in 1961 by Mr F. E. Cleary.

In 1972 the trustees of a discretionary settlement made in 1961 (the main settlement) executed two deeds of allocation whereby certain particularized assets (the allocated funds) were to be held on the trusts as set out in the deeds in favour of specified beneficiaries. The trusts of the allocated funds were distinct from the trusts of the main settlement and were exhaustive of the beneficial interests in those funds.

The trustees of the main settlement were to continue as trustees of the allocated funds and the administrative powers of the main settlement were to apply to the allocated funds. The trustee was assessed to capital gains tax on the basis that on the execution of the deeds he and the other trustees became absolutely entitled to the allocated funds, as against themselves as trustees of the main settlement for the purposes of section 25 (3) of the Act.

Section 25(3) of the Act provides: "On the occasion when a person becomes absolutely entitled to any settled property as against the trustee all the assets forming part of the settled property to which he becomes so entitled shall be deemed to have been disposed of by the trustee, and immediately reacquired by him in his capacity as a trustee within section 22(5) of this Act, for a consideration equal to their market value ..." [That provision is now contained in section 54(1) of the Capital Gains Tax Act 1979].

Mr John Mummery for the Crown; Mr Christopher McCall for the trustee.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that this was the fourth in a line of cases whose concern was to elucidate the circumstances in which exercises of powers of one kind or another over settled property gave rise to deemed disposals for the purposes of the tax. In *Hart v Briscoe* ([1979] Ch 1) and *Hoare Trustees v Gardner* ([1979] Ch 10), Mr Justice Brightman held that a deemed disposal did take place where the trustees pursuant to a power either transferred assets to the trustees of another *ad hoc* settlement or executed a deed declaring a series of trusts of the advanced assets so as to take them out of the main settlement and subject them to the new trusts.

The House of Lords recently agreed with that statement in the case of *Roome v Edwards* ([1981] 2 WLR 268). It was there held that the exercise of a joint special power of appointment under a marriage settlement did not result in the appointed fund becoming subject to the trusts of a separate settlement. Those cases contained valuable and authoritative observation to guide the court in the present case.

The task was to consider the effect of the two deeds of allocation in the light of the power pursuant to which they were executed. Did they or did they not create separate settlement?

In *Roome v Edwards* Lord Wilberforce set out (p 272) a number of indications which might help to show whether a separate settlement existed. In the same passage he said that the question whether a particular set of facts amounted to a settlement should be approached by asking what a person with knowledge of the legal context of the word under established doctrine and applying that knowlege in a practical and common-sense manner to the facts would conclude.

The trustees' power of allocation was not precisely identifiable either as a special power of appointment or as a power of advancement but in substance it seemed closer to the former. Clearly the power did not enable the trustees to take assets out of the settlement, far less to transfer them to the trustees of *some other settlement*.

A power to allocate trust assets to a beneficiary was one of an entirely domestic nature. As a matter of construction the power was in substance the equivalent of a special, although limited, power to appoint to a beneficiary on specified terms.

His Lordship said he could summarize his view by saying that he looked at the deeds of allocation as if they were exhaustive appointments under special powers which automatically preserved the application of the administrative powers of the settlement and the enduring retention of the allocated funds by the trustees.

On that footing, echoing what Lord Wilberforce said in *Roome*, *it would not be natural for the* presupposed knowledgeable person to say *that* a separate settlement had been created.

Although the special commissioners had determined the case before the House of Lords decision in *Roome* and thus did not have the advantage of Lord Wilberforce's guidance, they had arrived at the right conclusion. The deeds of allocation did not create separate settlements and that meant that the appeal had to be dismissed.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue: Lovell, White & King.

Status of telexes in contracts

Brinkibon Ltd v Stahag Stahl und Stahlwarenhandels GmbH.
Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook.
[Speeches delivered January 21]

The status of telexes in deciding whether a contract was made within the jurisdiction was discussed by members of the House of Lords when dismissing an appeal by English buyers, Brinkibon Ltd, from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stephenson and Lord Justice Templeman) (*The Times* June 14, 1980). That court had allowed an appeal by defendant sellers, Stahag Stahl, incorporated in Austria, and had set aside an order of Mr Justice Mocatta granting leave to the buyers to serve notice on the sellers in Austria of a writ for damages for alleged breach of contract.

Mr Anthony Thompson, QC, and Mr Alastair MacGregor for the buyers; Mr Nicholas Phillips, QC, and Mr M. White for the sellers.

LORD WILBERFORCE said that whether there was a contract in the present case could only be decided at the trial.

The facts of the case raised the question whether an acceptance by telex from London to Vienna caused a contract to be made in London or in Vienna.

If the acceptance had been sent by post, or by telegram, then on existing authorities the contract would have been complete when the acceptance was put into the hands of the post office in London. If on the other hand it had been telephoned, it would have been complete when heard by the offeror in Vienna.

Existing Court of Appeal authority in *Entores Ltd v Miles Far East Corporation* ([1955] 2 QB 327) held that a telex was to be assimilated to other methods of instantaneous communication.

The general rule was that a contract was formed when acceptance by an offeror was communicated to the offeree; and logic demanded that even where there was not mutual presence at the same place and the same time, if communication was instantaneous, for example by telephone or radio communication the same result should follow.

Then there was the common case of communication at a distance to meet which the so-called "postal rule" had developed. Its foundation was in convenience and in those cases it seemed logical to say that the place, as well as the time, of acceptance should be where (and when) the acceptance was put into the charge of the post office.

The Court of Appeal ruling in *Entores* classifying telex with instantaneous communications, which had passed into the textbooks, appeared not to have caused either adverse comment or any difficulty to businessmen. His Lordship would accept it as a general rule, although not necessarily a universal rule.

The present case, like *Entores*, was one of instantaneous communication between principals and in accordance with the general rule meant that any contract was made when and where the acceptance was received. That was in Vienna not within the jurisdiction.

His Lordship agreed with the Court of Appeal and would dismiss the appeal.

LORD FRASER, agreeing, said the posting rule was based on considerations of practical convenience arising from the delay that was inevitable in delivering a letter. But it had been extended to apply to telegrams and in strict logic there was much to be said for applying it also to telex messages sent by one business firm directly to another.

On balance his Lordship had reached the opinion that an acceptance sent by telex directly from the acceptor's office to the offeror's office should be treated as if it were an instantaneous communication between principals, like a telephone conversation.

In the ordinary case his Lordship thought that the general rule and not the postal rule should apply, although he agreed that the general rule would not cover all the variations that might occur with telex messages.

LORD BRANDON, also agreeing, said that while the present case, like *Entores*, was concerned only with instantaneous communication by telex between the principals on either side, there might in other cases be variations on that simple theme.

There could be no general rule capable of covering all such variations so that when they occurred the problems posed by them must be resolved by reference to the intention of the parties, sound business practice, and in some cases a judgment where the risk should lie.

Lord Russell and Lord Bridge agreed.

Solicitors: Heald & Nickinson; Linklaters & Paines.

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HORIZONS

The Times guide to careers training

Sharing out the assets

Of all the alternatives to the 40-hour week which have emerged as a result of the recession, job-sharing is proving one of the most effective and trouble-free.

Under such an arrangement, two people share the responsibilities of one full-time job, with the wages and fringe benefits divided according to the time each works. Most of the 3,000 job-sharers estimated to be employed in Britain prefer to divide the working week into two periods of 2½ days, but there are examples of people splitting jobs by working alternate months and even of working six months on and six months off.

The advantages this brings to both sides of industry are self-evident. To the employee, it provides access to the terms, conditions and fringe benefits of a full-time job, while making time for a more productive and enjoyable life outside working hours. To the employer, offering work on a shared basis fosters greater efficiency (peaks of work can be more effectively covered), higher productivity (each of the job-sharers works shorter hours and therefore at a higher energy level) and greater continuity of work (one sharer can carry on with at least half the work, and possibly all of it, if the other falls sick, leaves the job or takes holiday or maternity leave).

Among responsibilities which job-sharers have successfully divided are those of university lecturers, telephonists, clerical and secretarial staff, factory workers, librarians and senior executives.

If practised on a wide scale, such arrangements could provide a practical and economically beneficial way to reduce unemployment. They would also provide a viable "bridge" between work and leisure for the increasing numbers of people who retire early, as well as better working conditions for those who cannot or do not want to work on full-time, and they would allow full-time employees to lead more balanced and fulfilling lives.

This far-reaching potential has until now remained largely untapped. Several employers have pioneered job-sharing schemes in the past 30 years, notably Barclays Bank and the East Lothian Health Board, but the initiatives they took were sporadic, and often confined to hard-to-fill vacancies.

In the past 12 months, however, many more employers have begun to experiment on a wider scale. GEC Telecommunications in Coventry have pioneered a job-sharing scheme for school leavers working on the factory shop floor as well as in clerical positions. Pedigree Petfoods, one of the first employers to introduce flexible working hours on the shop floor, are about to launch their own scheme.

One high-level position in the personnel department of the Stock Exchange is now shared by two executives and in the public sector, Hackney Council and Sheffield City Council are offering new jobs on a full-time or shared basis.

Support groups for prospective job-sharers are also beginning to flourish. The largest, New Ways to Work, operates from north London and has been established since 1977. Sheffield has had a job-sharing support group since 1979, and in Bristol advocates of flexible working time are seeking ways of funding a job-sharing officer.

A conference jointly organized through the church and the city council in Coventry last month attracted over 40 local employers, and a seminar organized by the Industrial Society in London was attended by 20 major employers, including GEC, Pedigree, the Stock Exchange, Duracell Batteries, and the Greater Manchester Council.

Both conferences reflected the growing credibility of job-sharing in industry, and the need for more flexible working arrangements to cope with the changes brought about by technological development. As David Clutterbuck, senior editor of *International Management*, and chairman of the London conference, explained: "It is likely that by the end of the century, one in four people in the labour market will be part-timers, and it is probable that a significant proportion of these will be job-sharers."

Those interested in finding out more about job-sharing should send an sae to Pamela Walton at New Ways to Work, 347a Upper Street, London N1 (01-226 4026). *Horizons* would also like to hear from anyone who shares a full-time job, or wants to do so.

Michel Syrett

The tricky art of selection

An invitation to interview is a welcome indication that you have overcome the first hurdle in your job application. *However, you will have* only one opportunity to persuade your interviewer that you are *fitted to both* the job and the organization—and that you should be offered the appointment or invited to a second interview. At the same time you should seek confirmation that the job is one you can and want to do and reassurance that the organization has the resources and environment which will enable you to work effectively and happily.

You will have only limited interview time in which to acquire this information and to present yourself effectively. Preparation is essential. You will be unable to recount every detail of your education, training and experience or to ask many detailed questions.

You should be selective, therefore, concentrating on the information which most convincingly demonstrates that your abilities and experience are directly relevant to the needs of your potential employer. The questions you ask should further persuade your interviewer that you are well prepared, highly motivated and sensitive to the requirements of the job and the organization.

The relevance and quality of the information you provide, and of the questions you ask, will largely depend on your knowledge of the organization. You need to research your potential employer, and the more senior the appointment, the more you will need to know.

Start at your local reference library, or, if you have access to London, at the City Business Library in London Wall. If your potential employer is an industrial or commercial enterprise, consult the current editions of the major directories. Here are some of the most helpful.

Interviews

The Times 1,000 Leading Companies: a valuable summary of financial performance and other data (annual).

Dun and Bradstreet's Guide to Key British Enterprises: lists several thousand major companies, describing main activities, sales turnover, locations and names of directors.

Dun and Bradstreet's British Middle Market Directory: companion volume to the above, providing similar information for medium-sized companies.

UK Kompass Register: two volumes — one providing basic information on thousands of companies (location, activities, staffing, directors, etc), the other an index of products and services, cross-referenced to the supplying companies (annual).

Stock Exchange Yearbook: succinct financial descriptions of all quoted public companies (annual).

If the company is likely to have subsidiaries, or to be the subsidiary of another, also consult *Who Owns Whom* (Dun and Bradstreet), which details the relationships between companies (owner, subsidiary, etc).

Better stocked libraries also have Extel Cards. These provide a detailed, up-to-date summary of activities and financial performance of quoted and unquoted companies.

To research a government department or local authority consult *The Municipal Yearbook and Public Services Directory*—an annual giving comprehensive details of every public sector body.

Many employers take entries in career directories. Primarily aimed at final year undergraduates or school leavers, these provide much information on corporate activities, training, career development programmes, conditions of employment etc. The most comprehensive are *Graduate Opportunities* (generally known as *GO*), *Directory of Opportunities for Graduates (DOG)*, *Graduate Employment and Training (GET)* and *Opportunities for School and College Leavers*.

Annuals, usually published in the autumn, may be available in your reference library. If not, parents or children may be able to borrow copies from the school careers department or from a university or polytechnic careers advisory service.

Recruitment brochures produced by many employers may be borrowed from the same sources. These usually give detailed information on corporate activities and structure and on career paths and training.

If library research provides inadequate financial data, consult the up-to-date financial reports held by Companies House (Crown Way, Cardiff, and 55-71 City Road, London EC1).

Finally, from the end of next August, anyone registered with Professional and Executive Recruitment (a government organization) will receive a free copy of *Jobkey*. This new six-monthly directory, published in association with the New Opportunity Press, will provide details of 4,000 employers, together with editorial guidance on executive job search.

Philip Schofield

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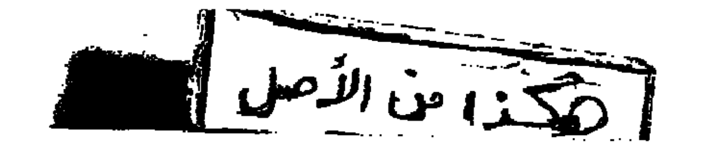
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(continued on pages 22-23)



Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Subjects include Living in a Developing Country; It's Your Choice; Out of the Past; Science Workshop; Scene; Maths-in-a-Box; Search and On the Rocks; 12.20 Interval. 12.30 News After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart; 12.57 Financial report, and news; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One; includes Tony Bilbow's regular item on the world of show business; 1.45 King Rollo; for the younger viewer; 1.50 Stop — Go; 2.00 You and Me: 2.15 For Schools, Colleges: Music Time (Happy Families) and Television Club (My Way); 3.00 Closedown; 3.15 Holiday: Flotilla cruising round the Florida Keys; and from the Wye Valley to Cheltenham (r); 3.55 Play School (see BBC 2, 11.00am).

4.20 Secret Squirrel: cartoon.
4.25 Jackanory. Tony Aitken reads part four of Michael Denton's The Eggbox Brontosaurus.
4.40 Huckleberry Finn and his Friends: Episode 5 of the Mark Twain story. The three chums have witnessed a murder and the wrong man is arrested.
5.05 John Craven's Newsround.
5.10 Blue Peter.
5.40 News: with Richard Baker; 6.00 South East at Six. And, at 6.25, Nationwide.
7.00 Tomorrow's World: A portable hair curler which works without mains or batteries; and the continuing search for a vaccine in the battle against hepatitis. Also, good news for pony lovers
7.25 Top of the Pops: with John Peel.
8.05 Wildlife on One: Encounter Underground. *Film of the Bulldog Ant of Australia*, which leads a very complicated life.
8.30 Goodbye Mr Kent: Hannah Gordon takes a lodger (Richard Briers) in this new comedy series. He gives her nothing but trouble.

9.00 News with John Simpson. And weather forecast.
9.25 Shoestring: Another drama in this series about a crime reporter for a West Country radio station. Trevor Eve stars. A local farmer is suspected of murdering his wife, who is missing. And Shoestring himself is attacked while jogging (r).
10.20 Question Time: Tonight's edition comes from Glasgow. The Hillhead by-election is expected to take place there some time next month, so this is going to be heavily political show Robin Day's team tonight consists of Malcolm Rifkind, Under Secretary of State for Scotland; Alex Kitson, the deputy general secretary of the transport workers union; Isobel Lindsey, vice-chairman of the SNP; and David Penhaligon, the Liberal MP
11.20 The European Ice Figure Skating Championships: From Lyons. We see the Men's Championship. The holder of the title is the Russian Igor Brobin, but it is not thought he will be competing tonight. A report too, on the Ladies competition. Debbie Cottrill is after a medal.
11.50 News headlines. And weather forecast.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School: Wilma Horsbrugh's story The Bold Bad Bus. The presenters are Sarah Long and Don Spencer; 11.25 Closedown; 12.00 Open University: The First Years of Life (the World at One); 12.25 Health Choices: (See Saw); 12.50 Governing Schools (the Interview). Open University Programmes end at 1.15 pm; At 3.55: Muggeridge: Ancient and Modern: Part 4 of this largely autobiographical series about the journalist and sage. Today: from 1945 to 1956. It covers Mr Muggeridge's work on Punch, Panorama and as a newspaper correspondent in Washington (r).

4.50 They're Playing My Tune: Why Sweet Caroline, sung by Neil Diamond, means so much to Rosalind Davison (r).
4.55 World Ski-ing Championships (replaces the scheduled World Land Speed record film).
5.40 All Creatures Great and Small: The vet's best-laid schemes go wrong (r).
6.35 Ennal's Point: Welsh lifeboat serial. Penultimate episode. The search for a suspected IRA terrorist; 7.20 News.
7.25 History on Your Doorstep: Fred Housego traces the history of a 1929-built semi-detached house in Ealing, west London. It has royal connexions.
7.50 The Shogun Inheritance: Part one of this repeated series about past and Present Japan (r).
8.30 Russell Harty: with the famous medium Doris Stokes.

9.00 Call My Bluff: Panel game based on word definitions. Arthur Marshall, Sue Cook and Peter Davison compete against Frank Muir, Joanna Lumley and Tim Rice.
9.30 Forty Minutes: The George Formby Story (see Choice).
10.10 Rhythm on Two: The Band of Her Majesty's Coldstream Guards.
10.45 Newsnight. Bulletins, comment.
11.30 The Old Grey Whistle Test: With Soft Cell and Edgar Winter. Ends at 12.15am.

Sue Cook: BBC 2, 9.00

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: The subjects include Physics in Action; My World; Seeing and Doing; Geography Today; Biology A-level; Basic Maths; Over to You; and Middle English; 12.00 Little Blue: The Christmas Play; 12.10 Get up and Go! with Beryl Reid; 12.30 The Sullivans; 1.00 News 1.20 Thames Area News 1.30 Take the High Road. Scottish estate serial. More about that wedding; 2.00 After Noon Plus. The GP — patient relationship and how to improve it; 2.45 Love Among the Artists: The GBS book, adapted as a serial. Final episode (r); 3.45 How's Your Father? Comedy, with Harry Worth as a bumbling widower (r).

4.15 Dangermouse: cartoon serial. Episode four.
4.20 Little House on the Prairie: A shock for the people of Walnut Grove.
5.15 Emmerdale Farm: More about Jackie Merrick and his shocking discovery about himself.
5.45 News from ITN 6.00 Thames Area News.
6.30 Thames Sport. Reports on the London sports scene from Derek Thompson, Allan Taylor and Simon Reed. Includes an interview with Yorkshire Cricket Club manager Ray Illingworth; plus Ladies Downhill ski-ing championships.
7.00 Does the Team Think? The comedy show in which funny men and women answer funny questions. With Beryl Reid, Jimmy Edwards, Frankie Howerd and William Rushton. The MC is Tim Brooke-Taylor.
7.30 Film: The Medusa Touch (1978) Science-fiction thriller with Richard Burton as man with the mental power to cause deaths and catastrophe on a vast scale. Co-starring Lino Ventura; Lee Remick, Harry Andrews, Marie-Christine Barrault and Gordon Jackson. Directed by Jack Gold.

9.00 Film: The Medusa Touch (continued).
9.30 TV Eye: A profile of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He is interviewed by Llew Gardner.
10.00 News from ITN and Thames area headlines.
10.30 Danger-UXB: Drama series about an Army *unit who have to dispose of the unexploded* bombs the Germans drop on London during World War Two. This is episode four. Brian Ash (Anthony Andrews) and his men act as guinea pigs on the testing of a new device to combat a lethal new German booby-trapped fuse. It's the invention of a boffin (Iain Cuthbertson) (r).
11.30 Parents and Teenagers: First in a new adult education series in which improvised drama is woven into interviews with teenagers and parents. The make-believe family are called The Wilsons — mother, father, son and daughter.
12.00 What the Papers Say: with Ann Leslie of the Daily Mail.
12.15 Close: with Quentin Crisp. He talks about living with style.

CHOICE

George Formby: His life story is told in Forty Minutes (BBC 2, 9.30pm)

● THE GEORGE FORMBY STORY (BBC 2, 9.30), Michael Dean's film for Forty Minutes, leaves the eulogies to others, and as it is framed by shots of a Formby lovers' convention in Blackpool, there is no shortage of them. There is, too, a plentiful supply of clips from newsreels and Formby movies which, while they will do little to attract new converts, will harden his fans' conviction that he was Lancashire's greatest gift to the world since tripe and onions. The sour notes in Mr Dean's commentary are reserved for Beryl Formby who kept her fingers on her husband's purse strings and her hand over his wandering eyes.

● EZRA, Bernard Kops's fantastic voyage through the brain of Pound, the captive poet, is being repeated tonight (Radio 3, 7.30). It is total radio — a fact that is all the more astonishing because the piece began life as a work for the theatre. A word of advice to you, however, before you settle down beside the radio set for an experience you are not likely easily to forget: swot up on your Pound chronology. Ian Holm plays the poet. Plays? Lives, rather. And practically tears himself apart in living him. Think of *Mr Holm in this* role. Then think of his J. M. Barrie in The Lost Boys. Think of his athletics coach in the film Chariots of Fire. Then think of his Michael Meade in the current BBC 2 serialization of Iris Murdoch's The Bell. Were all these characters really played by one and the same man?

● AFTER NOON PLUS (ITV, 2.00) is required viewing for any GP who feels he is losing the human touch, and for those who may never have succeeded in acquiring it in the first place. It is about bridge-building in the consulting room. Medical students learn what are the best building materials, and how best to use them. Young actors play the patients. What's needed now, of course, is an edition of After Noon Plus which tells patients how to help the GP by being better patients.

● GOODBYE MR KENT (BBC 1, 8.30 pm), the new comedy series by two Peters, Vincent and Robinson, suffers from one serious disadvantage — a central character (played by Richard Briers) who, though not a congenital idiot, has acquired all the appurtenances of one. There's a lesser irritant, too, a daughter (Talla Hayes) who is a tooth-ache of a teenager. So far, the saving-grace is Hannah Gordon's landlady. Which is ironic because comedy has not been Miss Gordon's forte up to now.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint.
9.30 The Living World. Midwinter in Manhattan.
10.00 News.
10.02 Your Move or Mine. The agonizing business of buying and selling houses. With Chris Serle and Tom Tickell.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "Charge of the Old Brigade" by Evelyn Hilary.
11.00 News.
11.05 File on 4. Tudor Lomas reports from Budapest on the state of the Hungarian economy.
11.50 Enquire Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Never Too Late.† Thora Hird, Avis Bunnage, Megs Jenkins in "Memorial Day"
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour, includes Honor Wyatt's recollections of a visit to the opera.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: "Tigers Eye" by Christine Harrison. With Lucinda Curtis and Jill Lidstone.
4.00 Home Base. The people and places that don't always make the national headlines.
4.15 Bookshelf. The presenter is Frank Delaney.
4.45 Story Time: "Marital Rites" by Margaret Forster (9).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Any Answers?
6.55 It's a bargain.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Time for Verse. Simon Brett presents presents a selection of "useful verse".
7.30 City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.† Concert: Haydn, Strauss. The Hadyn work is the Symphony No 22 and the Strauss work is the oboe concerto (soloist Heinz Holliger).
8.15 The White Dog of Inchdrewer. A talk by Nigel Tranter.
8.35 Concert† Part 2: Lutoslawski, Beethoven (Symphony No 4).
9.45 Kaleidoscope. This edition is devoted to the Pirates of Penzance. Includes an interview with the director of the film, Wilford Leach.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" by James Joyce (14).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Weather.
VHF: 6.25Weather Forecast. 9.05 For Schools. 10.30 Listen with Mother. 11.00 For Schools. 2.00 For Schools. 5.50 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4: *Ensemble* (14).

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. Uccellini, Vivaldi, Corelli, Mozart; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued). Ireland, Frederick Keel, Vaughan Williams, Bridge; records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composers. Albinoni and Marcello; records.†
9.45 Brahms. String Quartet recital, and Harp Recital: Pierne, Ravel, Mathias, D. Vaughan Thomas.
11.00 Richard Mapp (s) Piano recital: Bach transcr. Busoni, Granados.
11.40 BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra. Concert: Dvorak, Rachmaninov, Janacek.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Bristol Lunchtime Concert direct from St. George's, Brandon Hill. Chamber music recital: Pleyel, Schubert, Mozart, Sussmayr.†
2.00 Padmavati. Opera ballet in two acts by Roussel (sung in French).†
3.50 Fitzwilliam String Quartet. Recital: Dvorak, David Blake, Nielsen.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure with Brian Wright.†
7.00 Haydn String Quartet recital.†
7.30 Ezra by Bernard Kops. Starring Ian Holm as Ezra Pound, Barbara Jefford as Dorothy Pound, John Carson as Vivaldi and John Turner as Benito Mussolini.†
9.05 Ravel on record.†
9.25 Words. Talk by John Sparrow.
9.30 A Century of Choral Music. Choral recital. Part 1: Mendelssohn, Kodaly, Liszt. Given by the BBC Singers, with Osian Ellis (harp) and Christopher Bowers-Broadbent (organ).†
10.10 Interval reading.
10.15 Recital, part 2: Liszt. (the Requiem)
11.00 News.
11.05 Geminiani on record. Cello Sonata in D minor (Op 5, No 2) played by Anthony Pleeth and Richard Webb (cellos) and Christopher Hogwood (harpsichord).†
Medium frequency/medium wave as vhf above except: 6.40-11.00am Cricket: Sixth Test.

Radio 2

5.00 News. 5.03 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 *Country Club*.† 9.00 Alan Dell.† 10.00 Know Your Place. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. 11.00 Brian Mathew.† from Midnight. 1.00 Trucker's Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 The Record Producers. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Midnight: Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 KHz (463m) at the following times GMT: 6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Marching and Waltzing. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Golden Treasury. 8.30 John Peel. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Rock Salad. 10.15 Ploughman of the Moon. 10.30 Just a Minute. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Is Sin Out of Date? 11.30 Assignment. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Is Small Still Beautiful? 1.00 Ploughman of the Moon. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Golden Treasury. 2.30 Music Now. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95 8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94 9MHz World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

BBC CYMRU/WALES: 10.10-10.32 am I Ysgolion. 12.57-1.00 pm News. 2.15-2.40 I Ysgolion. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 7.00-7.25 Heddiw. 11.50 News headlines. SCOTLAND: 12.55-1.00 pm Scottish News. 3.00-3.30 The Afternoon Show. 3.30-3.55 Closedown. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 8.30-9.00 Current Account. 11.50 News headlines. NORTHERN IRELAND: 11.30-11.55 am For Schools. 12.57-1.00 pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 11.50 News headlines. ENGLAND: 6.00-6.25 Regional Magazines. 11.55 Close.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Flying Kiwi. 4.45-5.15 Sport Billy. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30 Police News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Entertainers: New Swingle Singers. 10.30 Bizarre. 11.00 Parents and Teenagers: New series. 11.30 Seachd Laithean. 11.45 Living and Growing for Parents and Teachers. 12.15 am News. 12.20 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Young Doctors. 1.20-1.30 News. 4.20 Sports Billy. 4.45 Jason of Star Command. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 News. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 England Their England: Copper's Life. 8.00-9.30 Film: Love Thy Neighbour (Jack Smethurst, Nina Baden-Semper). Film version of popular television series. 10.30 Venture: Current affairs presented by John Edwards. 11.00 News. 11.00 Film: Desperate Characters (Shirley Macfaine). Residents to New York's East Side find the rigours of life hard to take. 12.50 am Closedown.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 3.45-4.15 End of Part One. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35 What's on Where. 6.40 Take Tuckerman. 7.00-7.30 Benson. Fireside chat. 10.28 News. 10.34 Better Read. 11.05 Parents and Teenagers. 11.35 Jazz: John Etheridge. 12.05 am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Struck by Lightning. 4.20 Sport Billy. 4.45-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Country Calendar: Ducks and gymkhanas. 11.00 Parents and Teenagers: New series. 11.30 Ladies Man. 12.00 Closedown.

BORDER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Here's Boomer. 4.45-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Golfing Greats: Henry Cotton. 11.00 Parents and Teenagers: New series in which parents and teenagers talk about their relationship. 11.30 News. 1.33 Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 1.30-2.00 Bygones. 4.20 Palmerston USA. 5.15 Tiddler's Tales. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Bodyline. 7.00-7.30 Take the High Road. 10.30 Make Mine Music. 11.00 Parents and Teenagers. 11.30 Seachd Laithean. 11.45 Living and Growing for Parents and Teachers. 12.15 am Late Call. 12.20 Closedown.

TSW

As Thames except: Starts 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 End of Part One. 5.15 Gus Honeybun 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 Tele Views. 6.40 Take Tuckerman. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.32 News. 10.35 Politics South West: New series with Chris Rogers. 11.05 Parents and Teenagers: New series. 11.35 Jazz: John Etheridge. 12.05am Postscript. 12.11 Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 4.20 Fangface. 4.50-5.45 Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 News. 10.32 Job Slot Extra. 10.35 Bizarre. 11.00 Check It Out. 11.30 Medicine Men. 12.00 That's The Way To Do It. 12.05 am Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.45 Not For Women Only. 3.45-4.15 Electric Theatre Show: Comic strips. 4.20 Vicky The Viking. 4.45-5.15 Further Adventures of Oliver Twist. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Benson. 10.30 Supasquash. 11.00 Parents and Teachers. 11.30 Lou Grant. 12.30 am I Was Reading.

ULSTER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 4.20 Adventures Of Black Beauty. 4.50 Flying Kiwi. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.25 Police Six. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Bizarre. 11.00 Parents and Teenagers. 11.30 Bedtime. Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flags. 2.00-2.45 Take the High Road. 4.20 Here's Boomer 4.50-5.45 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.30 Granada Reports. 10.30 Barney Miller. 11.00 Medicine Men. 11.30 What The Papers Say. 11.50 Tenspeed and Brown Shoe. 12.45 Closedown.

TVS

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 TVS News. 2.00-2.45 Not For Women Only. 3.45-4.15 Square One. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Just Williams. 11.00 Parents and Teachers. 11.30 New Avengers. 12.30am Company.

HTV WEST

As Thames except: Starts 1.20pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Square One. 4.20 Palmerstown USA. 5.10 Jobline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 News. 6.35 Our Incredible World. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28 News. 10.30 Scene '82: Arts in the West Country. 11.00 Survival. 11.30 Lou Grant. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: Starts 11.22am-11.37 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10pm Mwsti. 4.15 Fanfare for Young Musicians: 4.45 Sêr. 5.10-5.20 Captain Nemo. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Sports Arena. 10.30-11.30 All Kinds of Everything.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

Entertainments Guide

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The Classified Advertisement Department is open for the reception of advertisements Monday-Friday, 9am-5.30pm. Outside these hours messages concerning classified advertisements may be left on the telephone answering machine by dialling 01-837 3311.

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.:
Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn 7180
All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

The deadline for all copy is one clear publishing day.

i.e., Monday is the deadline for Wednesday, Friday for Monday and Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication; for Monday's issue the deadline is 5.30pm on Friday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

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Personal Columns	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3 cms) £20.00 per cm full display (min 3 cms)
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Weekend Shoparound	£14.00 per cm full display (min 5 cms)
Court Circular	£5.00 per line
Box Numbers	£5.00

John Manning

Grass for the geese, and crops for the farmer

Mr Peter Carr farms 300 acres on the edge of the Blackwater estuary in Essex. On a field half a mile or so from his house are feeding hundreds of Brent geese (above), joined at intervals by more flights wheeling in gracefully over the sea wall.

For some reason the geese have always preferred this particular field (John Young writes). This year for the first time Mr Carr was persuaded not to plant crops but to leave it under grass. As a result the birds are content to leave the surrounding crops undisturbed.

Finding an acceptable means of protecting both the thousands of geese that migrate to southern and eastern England each winter, and the crops on which they feed and trample, has been exercising bodies like the Ministry of Agriculture and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds for some years.

Since the mid-1970s the numbers of geese have risen sharply. Between 60,000 and 80,000 arrive on the coast each October, as far north as the Humber and as far west as the Exe in Devon. But about half choose the estuaries of East Anglia and Essex, such as the Orwell, the Stour, the Blackwater, the Colne and the Crouch.

Mr Andrew St Joseph, a ministry biologist, is encouraging more farmers to follow Mr Carr's example and leave certain fields as "refuge" grassland, treated where necessary with fertilizer to encourage a lush growth. He reports "marvellous cooperation" from farmers and encouragement from the National Farmers' Union, which has agreed to finance part of the survey.

Mr Carr seems happy about the scheme, provided enough of his colleagues agree to participate. "I don't mind feeding the geese for a time", he says, "but I don't want to be the only farmer in Essex doing it."

Buckton says publicity stunt backfired

Continued from page 1

that the news would not get out until it happened."

Quite how British Rail intended to run trains without telling prospective passengers about them until the last minute was never adequately explained. Mr Raymond Buckton, general secretary of Aslef, was in no doubt about the nature of the exercise. "This is another example of British Rail's inept publicity stunts backfiring on them", he said last night.

In fact, British Rail was discreetly explaining that its few NUR drivers based here were anxious to take out trains and that they would not have gone ahead with their intention to run trains on this busy commuter line unless they had grounds for believing that the men would stick to their word. There was no risk of them being disciplined for not crossing the picket line, however.

British Rail management did have a publicity interest in the Aylesbury exercise. In the station supervisor's office, a commanding presence from the regional press office donned a luminous orange waistcoat as the critical clock on hour approached. But he was never able to speak in public to Mr Wheeler.

Another driver, Mr Kenneth Palmer, aged 57, made a second attempt to take out a train at 5 pm, but after talking to a dozen Aslef pickets he drove home to Chesham. An NUR driver for 35 years, he said: "I would have liked to have taken out a train but I had no intention of causing any trouble and I found the press and pickets a little daunting."

BR officials at the station said the two men were overawed as much by the press as by anything Aslef had to offer.

A BR spokesman said later the two drivers would be paid for a day's work. "They attempted to report for duty. It is not their fault they could not work," he said.

Conan Doyle's modern cast of mind proved

Continued from page 1

tissue around the bacillus but not the bacillus itself. Once again, Conan Doyle was proved right.

In this unpublished thesis, on *Tabes Dorsalis*, a degenerative disease of the spinal cord, Conan Doyle was one of the first to consider the role of syphilis in the aetiology of the illness. At the time he wrote the thesis, 1885, this was a minority view, and very unfashionable: several medical textbooks did not even mention it as a possible cause. Even today the aetiology of the illness is incompletely understood, though it has been confirmed that syphilis plays a part.

In other cases, Conan Doyle was in the vanguard of doctors advocating compulsory vaccination for soldiers against illnesses like typhoid and smallpox — a procedure which at that time encountered religious objections as some diseases still carried with them the taint of sinfulness; and in a letter he forecast that his "children's children" would see a time when the bacteriological causes of disease would be brought under control, and those diseases largely eradicated. His timing was not far out.

More generally, Dr Rodin says, Conan Doyle's medical writing showed him to have a logical, modern, scientific cast of mind, proceeding from specific cause to effect. Unlike many doctors of his time, he never paid much attention to the grandiose theories that were so popular and led to wild enthusiasm for cure-alls such as magnetism, hydrotherapy or galvanism.

Dr Rodin expects to be in Britain shortly, exploring medical archives in Portsmouth, where Conan Doyle practised as a GP. Perhaps somewhere, Sherlock's creator had hit on a cure for the common cold. Elementary.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

How the 3.15 Huckfield was derailed at Wigan

Sex shops were the subject of the main debate yesterday. Earlier in the day the Common Market reared its ugly head. But first, in response to reader demand, the latest details of the availability of Mr Leslie Huckfield (Nuneaton, Lab). Non-Huckfield users should be reminded that he is the Aslef-sponsored Labour backbencher who regularly gets up and, disguised as someone asking for an emergency debate on the rail dispute, manages to make a small speech in defence of the Aslef case before being refused the debate by the Speaker. Mr Huckfield was again the only Aslef service running in the whole of Britain yesterday. It is a proud record. He will be getting his long-service gold watch soon.

Mr Huckfield's speech departs at the end of question time. Unfortunately, no sooner had he got underway yesterday, than he encountered a certain amount of vandalism on the line from Mr Tristan Garel-Jones, the Conservative Member for commuter-intensive Watford, where feeling against Mr Huckfield must be running high.

Every time the service has run, some Tory or other has got up to complain to the Speaker that it is an abuse of the procedures of the House. Each time the Speaker, though with no great enthusiasm, has allowed Mr Huckfield to proceed on his journey.

But Mr Garel-Jones had devised a new way of delaying the run. He had remembered that, though still the member for Nuneaton, Mr Huckfield had managed to get himself adopted for the safe Labour seat of Wigan. On both sides of the House it is considered by many to be bad form to change constituencies in this way. The general view is that there is nothing wrong with looking for a safe seat, provided you have already lost an unsafe one.

"On a point of order, Mr Speaker," Mr Garel-Jones asked: "The Hon Member has been referred to as the Hon Member for Nuneaton, but should he not be called the Hon Member for Wigan?"

This was simply another Tory attempt to bring chaos to the whole Huckfield network. Mr Garel-Jones was just hitting the public. It was sheer bloody-mindedness.

The Speaker briskly told Mr Garel-Jones that that was not a point of order. Whereupon, the 3.45 Huckfield, changing at Wigan, rose from the Labour backbenches.

Mr Huckfield, in the accordance with tradition laid down since the beginning of the dispute, applied for an emergency debate on "the failure of the British Rail Board to honour its agreement to pay all railwaymen a 3 per cent increase from January of this year, and the consequences for industry and the travelling public."

Mr Huckfield's very formal manner recaptured some of the pomp and grandeur of the industry which will be fondly remembered by older readers. He is a reminder of an age when men were proud to work on the railways, when station masters wore bowler hats incessantly, when children fancied that the very rails on which the train travelled were repeatedly spelling out of the name of their destination.

We romantics in the gallery fancied we heard the rails carrying Mr Huckfield along, reverberating with their message of "we're going to Wigan, we're going to Wigan, we're going to Wigan".

But angry commuters on the Tory backbenches began to take the law into their own hands. Mr Huckfield was menaced with cries of "sit down", "shut up, for God's sake", and "we've had enough". Inevitably, the Speaker once more refused him his debate.

On the Common Market and sex shops, Mr Dennis Canavan (Stirlingshire West, Lab) sought leave to bring in a Bill to close down the former. His proposed measure withdrawing Britain from the EEC was defeated by 212 votes to 110. Later one went into the debate on the Government's plan to license sex shops, though improperly dressed, for one lacked the customary grubby raincoat.

These premises were denounced in all parts of the House.

"Sex shops regard women as objects and not as rounded personalities", said Mr Roland Moyle (Lewisham E, Lab), though some of us were under the impression that sex shops regarded women solely as rounded personalities.

Mr Timothy Raison, the Minister in charge of the Bill, referred to "the pornography industry". There was no pornography-sponsored member to put the industry's case. Sex awaits its Huckfield.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions

Photographer as Printmaker, Castle Museum, Nottingham, 10 to 4.45.

The British Worker, photographs of working life, 1839-1939, Carlisle Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle, 9 to 5.

Frills and Furbelows, costume trimmings and decorations, 1750-1940; and Play it Again and Again, Sam, exhibition of musical boxes (demonstrations each afternoon from 3.00 to 3.30); both at Strangers' Hall Museum, Norwich, Norfolk, 10 to 5.

Paintings by Elizabeth Blackadder, National Museum of Wales, Main Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff, 10 to 5.

Hurry along Please, 100 years of public transport in Oxfordshire, Banbury Museum, 8 Horsefair, Banbury, 10 to 4.

The Camera's Eye, photographs from the South east, art gallery, Civic Centre, Tunbridge Wells, 10 to 5.30.

Talks, lectures

Iron and Steel by Aubrey Tulley, Science Museum, 1.

History of Tiles—Victorian Tiles, by Terry Lockett, Christies, 63b Old Brompton Road, SW7, 7.

Horned Animals, Natural History Museum, 3.

Cubism, by Michael Compton, Tate Gallery, 1.

Late Roman and Byzantine ivory carving, by Geoffrey House, 11.30; and Introducing Prehistoric Britain—the palaeolithic and mesolithic periods, by David Williams; 1.15; both at British Museum.

The Storehouse of Memories, by Rev Dr Brian Johanson, City Temple, 1.15.

Degas, by Colin Wiggins, National Gallery, 1.

The Work of a Paper Conservator by John Bayne, Museum of London, London Wall, 1.10.

The Outbreak of the English Civil War, by Anthony Fletcher, Gustave Tuck Theatre, University College, 5.

Music

Concert: Allegri Quartet, Turner Sims Concert Hall, Southampton University, 8.

Concert: Orchestra of the City of Oxford, Oxford Town Hall, 8.

Concert: British Railways Lincoln Male Voice Choir, St Andrew's Church Hall, Lincoln, 7.30.

Anniversary today

William Harrison Ainsworth was born in Manchester, 1805.

Bond winners

The winning number in the Premium Bonds monthly draw for £250,000 was: 14KP 102872. The winner comes from Surrey.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Opposition motion on need to improve the lot of the elderly.

Lords (3): Debate on Scarman report on Brixton disturbances.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.77	1.69
Austria Sch	32.20	30.20
Belgium Fr	85.75	81.75
Canada $	2.33	2.24
Denmark Kr	14.85	14.16
Finland Mkk	8.74	8.29
France Fr	11.58	10.58
Germany DM	4.57	4.32
Greece Dr	125.00	116.00
Hongkong $	11.30	10.70
Ireland Pt	1.29	1.24
Italy Lir	2435.00	2335.00
Japan Yn	458.00	432.00
Netherlands Gld	5.00	4.74
Norway Kr	11.54	10.94
Portugal Esc	134.00	125.50
South Africa Rd	2.04	1.89
Spain Pta	195.50	185.50
Sweden Kr	11.14	10.56
Switzerland Fr	3.67	3.45
USA $	1.92	1.85
Yugoslavia Dnr	105.00	98.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The *FT* Index closed up 7.0 at 578.0.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,747

ACROSS

1 Writing about an epitaph, in a way (6).
5 Means to put on a brave face (3-5).
9 By a drug he is so divinely transformed (10).
10 Say, let's make capital here (4).
11 Coal fires I missed somehow out of doors (8).
12 How to get rid of hindrance in a river (6).
13 The fame of Lycidas (4).
15 Telling about the future, or about the Headless Vampire (8).
18 If all but the last two lines, this, grammatically (8).
19 "Your worm is your only emperor for ——" (*Hamlet*)(4).
21 Code number for a bit to eat (6).
23 W African's nil return about Soviet police chief (8).
25 Persian tent-maker began with a rousing summons (4).
26 Angry about many a style that is excessive (10).
27 Fashionable seaside doctor (8).
28 Belloc's moon, Swinburne's swallow, relatively speaking (6).

DOWN

2 Catch a student making resin for varnish (5).
3 Expound "printer's pie", and in French (9).
4 Fly south-east after trial run-up (6).
5 eg the split decision in the "Whose Baby?" case (6,2,7).
6 Description of balance is in lassie-lover's return (8).
7 Sounds spoken received by this apparatus (5).
8 Bargain for instance in no gallery without one (9).
14 Put together by late conjurer perhaps (9).
16 Family motto here "Ready to do battle" (5,4).
17 David, as a fortune-teller, comes about second (8).
20 Hence Leander, unusually sad boy (6).
22 Beginning to scale steep rock needs some neck (5).
24 Rent a quaint cave for a poet (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,746

Travel: Rail, road, air, sea

Pre-recorded travel information on Traveline—rail: 01-246 8030; road: 01-246 8031; sea: 01-246 8032; air: 01-246 8033.

Rail

No trains today; no overnight trains tonight. No very early trains tomorrow, and delays and cancellations likely, especially in the morning. For times of first trains call station inquiries or Traveline.

Emergency parking

Emergency car parks for private vehicles (open all week during rail disruption) include: Serpentine Road, Rotten Row, North Carriage Drive, West Carriage Drive and South Carriage Drive, Hyde Park; Inner and Outer Circle and Chester Road, Regent's Park; Albert Memorial Road, Kensington Gardens; Birdcage Walk, St James's Park; Battersea Park; Victoria Park, E9; Peckham Rye fairground. If central parking areas full by 12.30, parking may be allowed in The Mall (Horse Ride) and Constitution Hill (Green Park Side).

For NCP space availability, call 01-499 7050.

Accommodation

The London Tourist Board has made special arrangements to help workers to book hotels in the city; call 01-730 3450 before 5.30; or bookings can be made in person at National Tourist Information Centre, Victoria Station, from 9 am to 8.30 pm.

Sea

Because of Sealink dispute, no Newhaven/Dieppe ferries operating. For special coaches to ports during rail disruptions, call 01-828 4142 or 01-834 2345, or Sealink offices at ports.

Roads

Congestion likely during peak hours because of rail strike; the AA advises commuters to share cars if possible, and to stagger departure times.

Police advise learner drivers to avoid all main routes.

Roadworks

Wales and West: A483: Major improvements at Llanbister, Powys. A40: Road realignment at Whitemill, Dyfed. A303: Delays at Horton, Somerset. A361: Partially closed west of Taunton, Somerset.

North: A181: Temporary signals on Wellfield bypass, Co Durham. A1/A6136: Several lane closures on Catterick bypass (North Yorkshire).

Scotland: A80: Westbound carriageway closed from Muirhead and Stepps (Lanarkshire). Caution. A82: Major roadworks two miles south of Crianlarich, Perthshire. Delays. A9: Congestion south of Auchterarder (Perthshire).

Information supplied by the Automobile Association.

Air

Possible delays to passengers at Orly and Charles de Gaulle airports in Paris because of customs workers' work-to-rule.

Getting to Airports

National Express Air-Coaches run regular services to Heathrow and Gatwick from many provincial centres; also to some regional airports. Details from accredited travel agents, National Bus Company offices, or call 01-730 0202.

The papers

The Daily Mirror says members of Aslef will be among the victims of the rail dispute because jobs will disappear to pay for the losses. "If Aslef goes on the way it is doing, it soon won't have a friend left. Nor will it deserve one", the paper says, criticizing the union for being intransigent.

Sloppy management at the White House is blamed by the Wall Street Journal for the American administration's decision to pay Poland's debts to Western banks. Congress is urged to write a law "prohibiting the use of tax funds to bail out Polish dictators".

Auctions today

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: European oil paintings, 11; English and Continental furniture, 2.30. Christie's King Street: Fine Eastern textiles, rugs and carpets, 2.30. Christies South Kensington: European ceramics, 2; mechanical music, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Postage stamps—specialised Great Britain, 11. Sotheby's Bond Street: Old master prints, 11 and 2.30.

Viewing

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: English and Continental furniture, 9 to 2.30. Christie's King Street: Fine Continental glass; fine Continental pictures of the 19th and 20th centuries, 9 to 4; English drawings and watercolours, 9 to 4.45; fine English and Continental glass, 9 to 4. Christie's South Kensington: Printed books, atlases and maps, 9.15 to 4.30; silver, 9.15 to 4.30. Phillips Blenheim Street: Postage stamps, 9 to 10.30; silver and gold boxes, 9 to 4.30. Sotheby's Bond Street: Modern prints, carpets, 9.30 to 4.30. Sotheby's Belgravia: Toys and dolls; Oriental works of art, both 9.30 to 4.30.

Sporting fixtures

Racing: Meetings at Lingfield Park (1.45) and Towcester (1.30).

Rugby League: First division, Bradford Northern v Leigh (7.30).

Sport on TV

BBC 1: 11.20 European Ice Figure Skating Championships.

ITV: 6.30, Thames Sport.

The Times list of best-selling books

Unreliable Memoirs	Clive James	Picador	£1.50
Mr Smith's Favourite Garden	Geoffrey Smith	BBC	£1.50
101 Uses of a Dead Cat	Simon Bond	Eyre Methuen	£2.25
Brideshead Revisited	Evelyn Waugh	Penguin	£2.50
Travellers' Britain	Arthur Eperon	Pan/BBC	£2.95
The Bell	Iris Murdoch	Granada	£1.95
The French Lieutenant's Woman	John Fowles	Granada	£1.95
Duncton Wood	William Horwood	Hamlyn Paperbacks	£1.96
Fame is the Spur	Howard Spring	Fontana	£1.95
History on Your Doorstep	J. R. Ravensdale	BBC	£4.50

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammick's to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through eight Hammick's and 29 others.

Weather

A strong S airstream will cover the UK with a trough of low pressure moving slowly into W districts.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia: Mainly cloudy, some rain later; winds fresh or strong; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Central S, E England, E Midlands: Mainly dry at first but cloudy, rain spreading from the SW; wind S fresh or strong; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

W Midlands, NW, central N England, Lake District, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Cloudy, rain spreading from the SW; wind strong, locally gale; max temp 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Channel Islands, SW England, Wales, Isle of Man, N Ireland: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, becoming clearer but showery later; wind S to SW strong to gale; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, NE Scotland, Moray Firth, Orkney, Shetland: Mainly cloudy, a little rain in places, more general rain later; wind S to SE strong to gale; max temp 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Showers or longer outbreaks of rain, chiefly in the N and W, but also some sunny intervals. Mild.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind S fresh to strong locally gale; sea rough, locally very rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S strong to gale locally severe gale; sea very rough.

Sun rises: 7.35 am — Sun sets: 4.55 pm
Moon sets: 4.6 am — Moon rises: 12.45 pm
Full moon: February 8

Lighting up time

London 5.25 pm to 7.3 am
Bristol 5.35 pm to 7.13 am
Edinburgh 5.22 pm to 7.30 am
Manchester 5.27 pm to 7.18 am
Penzance 5.51 pm to 7.21 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: r, rain; c, cloud; f, fair.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	7	45	Inverness	f	6	43
Birmingham	c	4	39	Jersey	c	8	46
Blackpool	f	7	45	London	c	6	43
Bristol	c	8	46	Manchester	c	6	43
Cardiff	c	7	45	Newcastle	c	3	37
Edinburgh	f	5	41	Perth			
Glasgow	c	6	43	Ronaldsway	c	6	43
Guernsey	c	7	45				

London

Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 79 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,018.7 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Highest and lowest

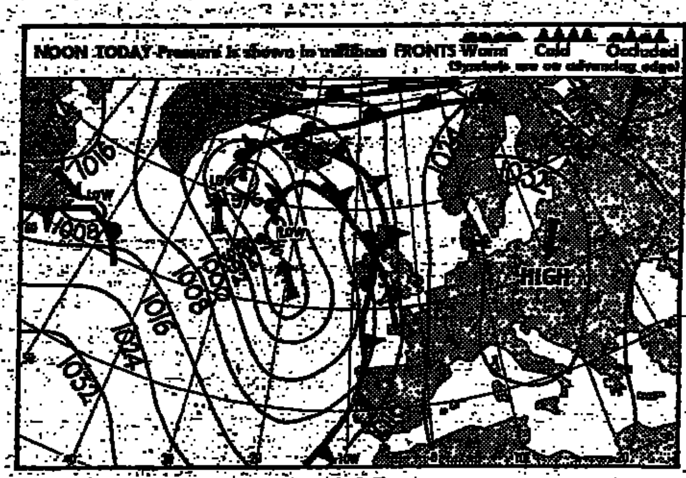
Highest day temp: Ilfracombe, Falmouth, Isles of Scilly, Anglesey 11C (52F). Lowest day max: Aberdeen, Linton-on-Ouse, Scarborough 5C (41F). Highest rainfall: Belfast .03in. Highest sunshine: Cromer 4.9hrs.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

LONDON: Cosmos 1220: 18.55-19.1; W; 30NNW; NNE*. Cosmos 236R: (Feb 5) 5.51-5.53; SSW*; 25SSW; S. Agena DR: (Feb 5) 4.11-4.17; N*; 20NNE; ENE and 5.55-6.6; NNW; 60ENE; ESE. Seasat: 17.57-18.2; N; 15NNW; WNW. Ariel: (Feb 5) 5.48-5.52; WSW; 70SE; ESE.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.





b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.34	6.2	10.28	6.3
Aberdeen	9.42	3.6	10.06	3.8
Avonmouth	2.49	10.7	3.32	11.0
Belfast	7.13	3.1	7.49	3.2
Cardiff	2.35	10.0	3.19	10.3
Devonport	1.12	4.6	1.56	4.6
Dover	6.43	5.7	7.33	5.6
Falmouth	12.42	4.4	1.25	4.4
Glasgow	8.27	4.1	9.36	4.2
Harwich	7.35	3.3	8.29	3.2
Holyhead	6.32	4.7	7.00	4.9
Hull	1.44	6.5	2.42	6.3
Ilfracombe	1.33	7.4	2.20	7.6
Leith	10.54	4.8	11.17	4.9
Liverpool	7.13	7.9	7.48	8.2
Lowestoft	5.04	2.2	6.04	2.1
Margate	7.37	4.2	8.32	4.2
Milford Haven	1.54	5.6	2.36	5.8
Newquay	12.53	5.7	1.34	5.9
Oban	1.38	3.0	2.54	3.3
Penzance	12.27	4.6	1.08	4.6
Portland	2.13	1.5	3.05	1.5
Portsmouth	7.18	4.1	8.04	4.0
Shoreham	7.02	5.2	7.45	5.3
Southampton	6.59	4.1	7.39	4.0
Swansea	2.06	7.7	2.49	7.9
Tees			12.17	4.6
Wltn-on-the-Naze	7.28	3.6	8.25	3.6

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	1.5	—	5	41	Cloudy	Falmouth	—	—	11	52	Cloudy
Bridlington	1.9	—	5	41	Cloudy	Penzance	0.3	—	10	50	Cloudy
Cromer	4.9	—	6	43	Sun pds	Ilfracombe	4.4	—	11	52	Sun pds
Lowestoft	4.2	—	5	41	Sun pds	Tenby	—	—	8	46	Cloudy
Clacton	2.3	—	5	41	Sun ints	Anglesey	2.8	—	11	52	Sun ints
Margate	1.6	—	6	43	Cloudy	Colwyn Bay	3.6	—	9	48	Sun ints
Folkestone	2.9	—	7	45	Sun ints	Southport	—	—	7	45	Cloudy
Hastings	1.0	—	7	45	Cloudy	Blackpool	0.7	—	7	45	Cloudy
Eastbourne	0.5	—	7	45	Cloudy	Morecambe	1.0	—	8	46	Cloudy
Worthing	0.4	—	8	46	Cloudy	Douglas	—	—	6	43	Dull
Littlehampton	—	—	8	46	Dull	Aldergrove	—	.03	8	46	Rain
Bognor Regis	—	—	7	45	Cloudy	Eskdalemuir	—	—	6	43	Cloudy
Southsea	—	—	8	46	Cloudy	Prestwick	—	—	8	46	Cloudy
Shanklin	—	—	7	45	Cloudy	Abbotsinch	—	—	6	43	Cloudy
Bournemouth	—	—	7	45	Cloudy	Tiree	—	—	7	45	Cloudy
Poole	—	—	8	46	Cloudy	Stornoway	—	—	8	46	Cloudy
Swanage	—	—	8	46	Cloudy	Lerwick	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Weymouth	—	—	9	48	Cloudy	Wick	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Exmouth	—	—	8	46	Cloudy	Kinloss	0.1	—	8	46	Cloudy
Teignmouth	—	—	9	48	Dull	Dyce	—	—	5	41	Cloudy
Torquay	—	—	9	48	Dull	Leuchars	—	—	5	41	Cloudy

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; d, drizzle.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	12	54	Cologne	s	1	34	Madrid	c	8	46	Rome	f	10	50
Akrotiri	s	21	52	Copenhagen	s	0	32	Majorca	d	13	55	Salzburg	s	1	34
Algiers	s	16	61	Corfu	s	12	54	Malaga	s	16	61	San Francisco			
Amsterdam	s	2	36	Dublin	r	7	45	Malta	s	13	55	Seoul	c	3	37
Athens	s	6	43	Dubrovnik	s	9	48	Melbourne				Singapore			
Bahrain	s	19	66	Faro	c	15	59	Mexico City				Stockholm	c	—	27
Barbados				Florence	s	7	45	Milan	s	5	41	Strasbourg	s	1	34
Barcelona	f	16	57	Frankfurt	c	0	32	Montreal				Sydney			
Beirut	c	13	55	Funchal	c	17	63	Moscow	c	-9	16	Tangier	s	17	63
Berlin	c	-3	27	Geneva	c	2	36	Munich	s	-3	27	Tehran			
Bermuda				Gibraltar	s	15	59	Nairobi	f	29	84	Tel Aviv	c	13	55
Biarritz	f	13	55	Helsinki	c	-1	30	Naples	s	9	48	Tenerife	s	19	66
Boulogne	f	5	41	Hong Kong	c	19	66	New York				Tokyo	s	8	46
Bordeaux	f	13	55	Innsbruck	s	-1	30	Nice	c	11	52	Toronto			
Boston				Istanbul	sn	0	32	Oslo	c	-2	28	Tunis	f	14	57
Brussels	f	5	41	Jeddah	s	25	77	Paris	f	5	41	Valencia	c	13	55
Budapest	f	0	32	Johannesburg	s	27	81	Prague	c	-3	27	Venice	s	4	39
Cairo	f	15	59	Las Palmas	s	19	66	Reykjavik	r	5	41	Vienna	f	-3	27
Cape Town				Lisbon	c	13	55	Rhodes	s	7	45	Warsaw	c	-4	25
Casablanca	s	16	61	Locarno	c	5	41	Riyadh	s	25	77	Washington			
Chicago				Luxembourg	s	-1	30	Rio de Janeiro				Zurich	c	0	32